

Typical pottery made by village women in Jordan

Village pots; village women

Text and photos

By Jim Mason and Loring Taylor

The following is the first of a four part article on the history of village pottery in Jordan and the central role that women played in the development and continuation of this ancient art.

THE TERRITORY encompassed by the present Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has known a venerable tradition of making clay pottery, beginning with the Neolithic and Chalcolithic periods. By the Middle Bronze Age, use of the potters' wheel had become widespread, and ties of trade and influence had been established with other regions and cultures, including the Egyptian, Mycenaean and Syro-Babylonian. During Roman and Byzantine times, the region sustained a large population, which encouraged division of labour and the development of classes of artisans, with their specialised skills. Apprenticeship in such classes of artisans ensured a sustained high level of craftsmanship. During this era, the making of ceramic pots reached a high level, maintained, with local variations, throughout the Roman empire. It was also during this era that the high point in Jordanian ceramic craftsmanship was achieved — the fine, pink, feather decorated ware of the Nabateans.

What could broadly be described as the Roman ceramic tradition continued through the Byzantine era and into the early Islamic period. However, in the Abbasid period, the centre of power moved eastward, from Damascus to Baghdad, and the population of the Jordan region began to decline. Through the Crusader period and the centur-

sufficient, taking care of animals, raising and processing food, making clothes, farm implements and other material objects which were required. Pottery vessels, of all shapes and sizes, were among the necessities of such an agricultural existence. Pots were needed for eating and drinking, for cooking and preparing food, in particular bread, for storing water and other liquids, and for processing such food as olives and olive oil, yoghurt, etc. Wherever a local pottery tradition did not exist or had died out, it was necessary to re-invent it.

It appears that, somewhat over two hundred years ago, such a tradition of pottery making was re-invented. The pots which were produced in answer to the villagers' needs bore little direct resemblance to pots made in the same region over centuries or even millennia before and little resemblance to pots made in contemporary major centres of Islamic pottery. This appears to have been a purely local tradition, in which pots were produced in answer to local needs.

The potters wheel was not used by the village potters. All the village pots were hand made, reviving or employing formative techniques as old as those used in the Chalcolithic period. Pots would be formed by slab or coil technique or by using a straw basket or other form as a mould. All the pots were unglazed and made of local, low fired clay. Many varieties of clay are present in the whole region. In general, they contain different amounts of

quartz in the form of sand, as well as basalt, limestone and flint.

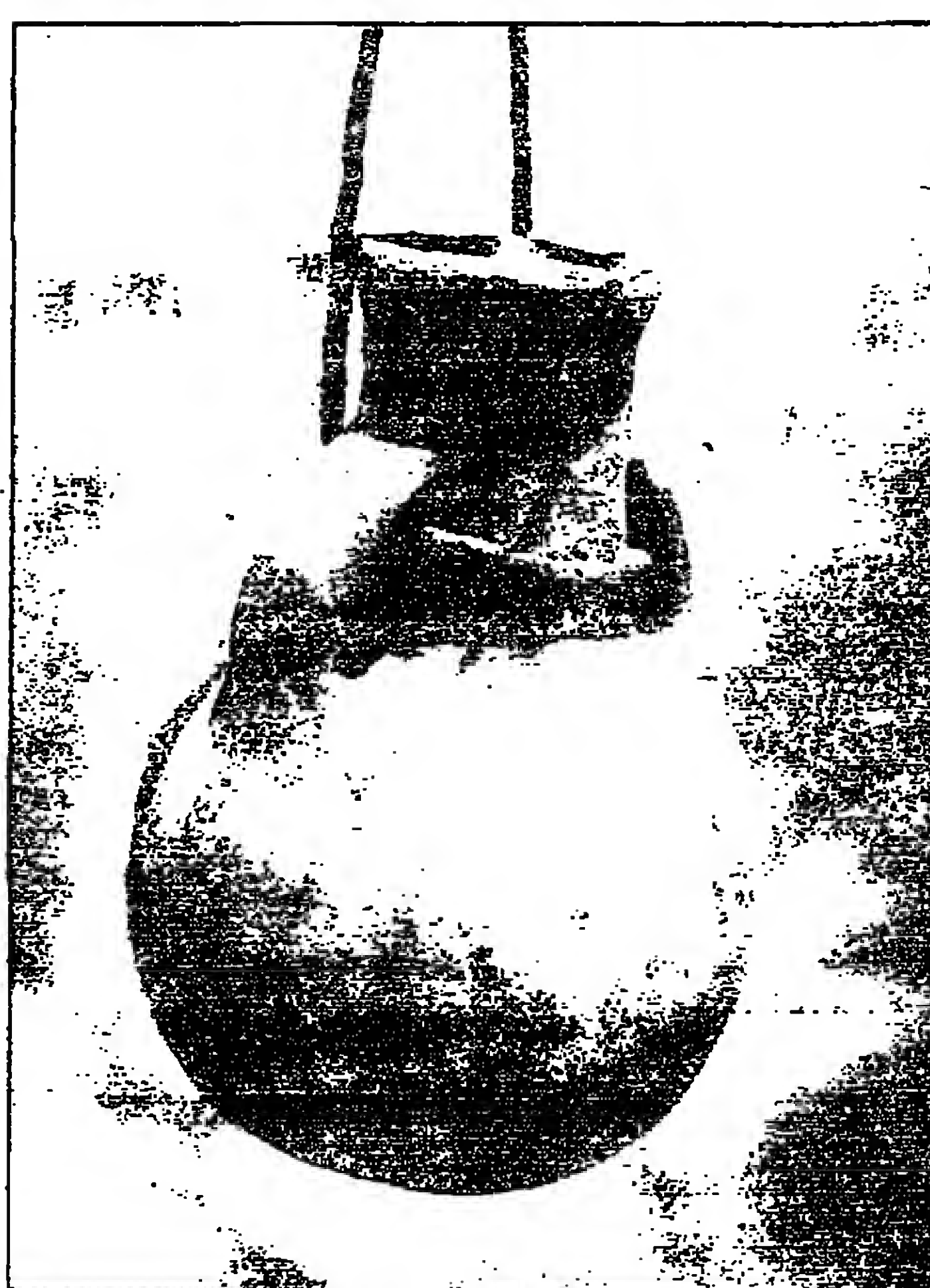
Potters learned by trial and error to add materials to balance the composition of their local clays. They also added material to the clay body as "grog" or inclusions to improve the working and firing behaviour of the clay and to "open up" the clay body, thus reducing the thermal shock to the fabric upon heating and cooling. The grog also increased the dry standing strength of the pots. Materials used as grog included sand, ground up sherds or a local basalt, crushed and pounded into fine grains. This material was known as *hizanieh*.

Pots were generally made in the late spring. After the pots were completed they would be put to stand for some time in order to dry out the clay — an informal substitute for a "bisque" firing. After the pot had thoroughly dried, it would be fired. A hole would be dug in the ground. Pots would be set into the hole and packed with dried dung, which would also be spread to a thickness of several inches over the pots. The dung would then be fired. The firing process would take up to two days, although periods of four days are recorded.

The pots which were produced in this fashion varied in size from a few centimetres to hefty vessels up to the height of a woman's thigh, weighing up to eighty kilograms empty and capable of holding thirty or more gallons of liquid. The forms varied con-



Traditional use for a potted jug (below) A jug is used to scoop water from a well



siderably, but all were immediately functional, the form determined by the function of the vessel. Pots for milking sheep or goats, for example, had spacious handles and wide mouths. Each

type of pot was designated by a specific name. Over eighty different names for different sizes, shapes and functions of pots have been collected from the region of northern Jordan.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MITTERRAND RECEIVES ENVOY: French President Francois Mitterrand Friday received Jordan's Ambassador to France Yusuf Bouran at the conclusion of his tour of duty. During the meeting, the French president expressed his appreciation and respect for His Majesty King Hussein. He also praised Jordanian-French relations.

CROWN PRINCE THANKED: At the conclusion of the 12th conference of the Association for the Protection of Industrial Property in the Arab World, the participants called His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan expressing profound appreciation for the facilities Jordan provided and the special attention it paid to the conference.

"JORDAN 88": Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali Thursday opened an exhibition of painting entitled "Jordan 88" at the Royal Cultural Centre. The exhibition, which consists of works by youth artists, includes 75 paintings and woodcarving representing nature and life in Jordan. A number of officials and members of the diplomatic corps were present. The exhibition, which will run through July 9, is sponsored by the Royal Cultural Centre.

DAKHQAN VISITS ZARQA, MAFRAQ: Minister of Water and Irrigation Ahmad Dakhqan Thursday made an inspection tour of ministry offices in Zarqa and Mafraq regions where he inspected work underway to improve a water supply for local inhabitants. The minister inspected artesian water wells in the two areas including those at Zaatar, Deir Al Kahf, Abar Al Aqeb and Sabha, and was assured of the management of these wells. Directors of local departments in the two regions accompanied the minister on the tour.

DUDIN BRIEFS ARAB AMERICANS: Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin Thursday received a delegation from the National Council of Arab-American Relations. The minister explained to the delegation the current situation in the occupied Arab territories, Israel's oppressive measures against the popular uprising, and Jordan's role in supporting the Palestinian people's steadfastness.

NARCOTICS COMBATTING: Director of the Police Academy Col. Mohammad Al Busoul Thursday attended the graduation ceremony of the second batch of police officers combating narcotics, which was held at the academy. Busoul highlighted the importance of training, which aims to upgrade the policemen's performance and develop methods to deal with all kinds of problems that might face them, in the course of their duties.

U.K. EMBASSY DONATION: The British embassy here has donated six wheelchairs for the physically handicapped people in Jordan. A British embassy staff member, accompanied by the assistant director of the Social Development Department in Zarqa visited the Islamic Cultural and Charitable Society to present the donation. They looked into the services and facilities offered to the handicapped and orphaned girls. The British embassy also presented the society with pieces of furniture.

TAWJIHI EXAMS END: End of year examinations for the Tawjihi students and those taking the first secondary class admission examinations ended in Jordan on Thursday. Officials at the Ministry of Education, which organised the general examinations, said that marking of papers has already begun, and the results could be announced by the end of July. Nearly 51,783 students took the Tawjihi examination session and 63,968 took the admission examinations in the East Bank of Jordan, but the ministry is still to settle the problem of students on the occupied West Bank who were not able to sit for any examinations in view of the current school closure as a result of the uprising.

JORDANIAN PILOT IN SANA'A: Jordanian pilot Kamal Al Nobani and his Qatari partner Hamad Ibn Ali Al Thani arrived in Sana'a Thursday to participate in the International Air Rally which is organised by the French Space Club on the 100th anniversary of French pilot. Roland Darsos.

HOUSING EXHIBITION: The Housing Bank Sunday holds a two week housing exhibition at the Plaza Hotel. Taking part in the exhibition are the Housing Corporation, the Urban Development Corporation and leading real estate investors, in addition to representatives of the Greater Amman Municipality and the Land Registration Department. A spokesman for the Housing Bank said that this exhibition capitalises on the success achieved during the Jordanian housing exhibition held in the United Arab Emirates.

ENVOY GETS AWARD: The Chilean president has bestowed on Jordan's Ambassador to Chile Samih Al Faraj the Independence Medal at the conclusion of his tour of duty. This medal is in appreciation of the ambassador's efforts to develop bilateral relations. The Chilean foreign minister presented the medal to Faraj during a reception held Tuesday.

TOURISM: Tourism Minister Zuhair Ajlouni Thursday discussed with South Korean ambassador to Jordan Taejin Park bilateral relations in the touristic field and means of developing them.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	24:00	Close Down
Tel: 77111-19		
PROGRAMME ONE		
16:00	Koran	
16:25	Cartoons and children programmes	
16:50	Educational programme	
17:50	Cultural programme	
18:05	News summary	
18:45	Message from Iraq	
18:15	Lottery drawing	
18:20	Local programme	
19:15	Family programme	
19:40	Programme from Iraq	
20:00	News summary	
20:35	Arabic series	
21:40	Local programme	
22:30	Play in Arabic	
22:40	News summary	
23:10	Play continued	
PROGRAMME TWO		
15:55	1988 Wimbledon ladies' singles finals	
19:00	News in French	
19:15	Un DB de plus	
19:45	News in Hebrew	
19:55	Science World	
20:00	News in Arabic	
20:30	Mr. Belvedere	
21:00	Alfred Hitchcock film	
21:30	Saturday Varieties	
22:00	News in English	
22:30	Feature film: "Between Two Women"	
RADIO JORDAN		
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM		
& partly on 96.0 KHz, SW		
Tel: 77111-19		
07:00	Morning Show	
07:30	Newsdesk	
07:50	Morning Show	
08:00	News Summary	
08:10	Morning Show	
08:30	News Summary	
08:45	Morning Show	
09:00	News Summary	
09:15	Instrumental Old favourites	
09:30	Special Feature	
09:45	Good Old Days	
10:00	News Summary	
10:15	Top Twenty	
10:30	Newsdesk/Music	
10:45	The Young Sound	
11:00	The Musical in Review	
11:15	Country Music	
11:30	Classical Concerts	

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	19th Century, orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luvchub. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays, Tel: 630123.
EXHIBITIONS	
★ A permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle.	
★ A permanent exhibition of plastic art by 2 Arab artists at the Plaza Hotel.	
★ A book exhibition at Salt Manopali.	
★ Art exhibition "Jordan 88", The Royal Cultural Centre.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre, Tel. 661925.	
American Centre, Tel. 644371.	
American Centre library, 641520.	
British Council, 656147.	
French Cultural Centre, 657009.	
Goethe Institute, 661893.	
Soviet Cultural Centre, 622203.	
Spanish Cultural Centre, 624049.	
Turkish Cultural Centre, 639777.	
Haya Arts Centre, 661818.	
Y.W.C.A., 641793.	
Y.W.M.C.A., 642521.	
Amman Municipal Library, 637111.	
Univ. of Jordan Library, 643595.	
MUSEUMS	
"Children's Heritage and Science Museum": Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.	
Foldre Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 15th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 657800.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Chadid Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Friday and official holidays) 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.	
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	19th Century, orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luvchub. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays, Tel: 630123.
ARRIVALS	
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
05:30	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
06:00	New Delhi (RJ)
06:30	Aqaba (RJ)
06:50	Cairo (RJ)
07:30	Dhahran (RJ)
08:00	Kuwait (RJ)
08:30	Kuwait (RJ)
09:00	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
09:30	Kuwait (RJ)
10:00	New York, Montreal (RJ)
10:30	Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
11:00	Athens (RJ)
11:30	Los Angeles, Miami, Vienna (RJ)
12:00	Tripoli (RJ)
12:30	Moscow (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
02:30	Belgrade (JU)
03:00	Baghdad (IA)
03:30	Bahrain (GF)
04:00	Cairo (MS)
04:30	Tripoli (LN)
05:00	Riyadh (SV)
05:30	Rome (AZ)
06:00	Kuwait (KU)
06:30	Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
07:00	Paris, Damascus (AF)
07:30	London, Cairo (BA)
DEPARTURES	
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
07:30	Kuwait (RJ)
07:45	Aqaba (RJ)
08:00	Tripoli (RJ)
08:30	Moscow (RJ)
09:00	Athens (RJ)
09:30	Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
10:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
10:30	London (RJ)
11:00	Paris (RJ)
11:30	Dhahran (RJ)
12:00	Kuwait (RJ)
12:30	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
13:00	Damascus, Larnaca (RJ)
13:30	Jeddah (RJ)
14:00	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
14:30	Cairo (RJ)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES	NIGHT DUTY
Amman governorate 891225	ANMAN:
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199	Dr. Yusuf Sammour 663354
Civil Defence (tribal) 271295, 273131	Dr. Mohammad Abu Mahfouth 793344
Civil Defence (Dawadma) 770733	Dr. Yusuf Smeirani 621311
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306	Dr. Abdul 'Aziz Abu Khalaf (—)
Ambulance 192, 775111	Firdos pharmacy 661912
Amman downtown fire brigade 198	Firdos pharmacy 778336
First Aid 630541	Al Azzam pharmacy 637055
Blood Bank 776303	Nairoukh pharmacy 626672
Civil Defence rescue 661111	Al Salam pharmacy 636738
Fire headquarters 622090-3	Yazoub pharmacy 644466
Police 172, 621111, 637777	Shmeirani pharmacy 637660
Police headquarters 639141	
Traffic police 696300/1	
Electric Power Co. 626351/4, 624881	TAXIS:
Municipal water complaints 771258	Talal taxi 640131
Queen Alia Intl. Airport (08)533060	Venice taxi 644584
	Asfour taxi 623230
	Dutcher taxi 813581
	Nahda taxi 663003
	Holiday taxi 663101
	Saved taxi 664422
	Madiba taxi 664415
	IBRD:
	Dr. Ahmad Bishawi 274436
	Al Shara'a pharmacy 685238
	ZARQA:
	Dr. Abdul Karim Al Khushshnah 983022
	Khalifeh pharmacy 985417
	GENERAL
	Jordan Television 773111/19
	Radio Jordan 774111/19
	Ministry of Tourism 642511
	Hotel complaints 664412
	Price complaints 661176
	Telephone information 12
	Jordan and Middle East calls 10
	Overseas calls 17
	Repair service 11
	MARKET PRICES
	Upper/lower price in lbs per 100
	Apple 400 / 360
	Apricot 550 / 500
	Banana 350 / 300
	Banana (Mukammal) 300 / 250
	Beans 370 / 300
	Cabbage 110 / 80
	Carrot 240 / 200
	Corn 100 / 70
	Cucumber 150 / 100
	Eggplant (large) 150 / 100
	Eggplant (small) 150 / 100
	Garlic 350 / 300
	Grapes (black) 300 / 250
	Grapes (green) 600 / 500
	Leamon (green) 380 / 320
	Leamon (yellow) 450 / 400
	Mallow 90 / 60
	Melons 130 / 100
	Onion (dry) 80 / 50
	Oranges 350 / 300
	Okra 350 / 300
	Peaches 450 / 400
	Peas 340 / 280
	Pepper (hot) 400 / 350
	Pepper (sweet) 400 / 350
	Portalo 150 / 100
	Sweetcorn 140 / 100
	Tomatoes 170 / 120
	Watermelon 100 / 70

King sends best wishes on Canada's National Day

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday sent a cable congratulating Governor General of Canada Jeanne Sauve on Canada's National Day. In the name of the Jordanian government and people, the King wished the governor general good health, further prosperity and progress to the Canadian people.

Hammouri visits Ramtha

RAMTHA (Petra) — Culture and National Heritage Minister Mohammad Hammouri Thursday called for intensifying the efforts of all institutions concerned with art and national heritage in Ramtha. He also urged to integrate them in one body that can best represent the folklore and national heritage, in the district.

During a tour of Ramtha art and folklore institutions, Hammouri said that Ramtha has contributed significantly to the Jordanian national folklore and voiced hope for continued contributions.

Hammouri opened the new premises of Ramtha art and theatre troupe, and toured the plastic art exhibition, the scientific and historical corners.

35 students graduate from computer course

AMMAN (Petra) — A group of 35 students graduated Thursday after completing a training course on computers used at kindergartens in Karak, Maan, Tafleh and Aqaba regions run by the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS).

GUVS President Abdullah Al Khatib delivered a speech outlining the union's keenness on promoting training for teachers and the supply of equipment and other facilities to children's classrooms.

He said that 163 children centres run by GUVS on both banks have been provided with computers and furniture to facilitate their mission.

Khatib distributed diplomas to the graduates and computers to eight charitable societies.

Local firm signs contract to design Karak hospital

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A local consultancy firm has won a contract from the Health Ministry to prepare designs for the infrastructure of a hospital to be built by the Italian government in the southern town of Karak.

Consulting Engineering Centre will work on the designs to be ready next month for a Health Ministry tender, to lay the infrastructure of the hospital project at the cost of JD 500,000 to be provided by the Jordanian treasury.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, who signed the contract with the local firm Thursday, said that the Italian government will spend \$7 million as a grant on the projected hospital to be built by Italian government.

Building of the 100-bed hospital can start upon the completion of the infrastructure which is expected in October, according to the minister.

Hamzeh said that the hospital which could be expanded later to have 200 beds will be sufficient for the Karak Governorate's medical requirements until the year 2,000 and it will be functioning along with the existing hospital which will be turned into an integrated health centre, offering primary health care services to the local population.

"The integrated centre, which will function 24 hours a day will have X-ray units, emergency sections and a laboratory, along with other essential facilities," he noted.

Karak has an operational Italian hospital and the Jordan Times has learnt that its equipment would be improved and its facilities expanded to provide better services.

Immediate primary health care

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh Thursday chaired a meeting at the ministry to discuss the introduction of immediate primary health care.

The new health project, which has been studied by the ministry and the World Health Organisation (WHO), aims to develop emergency first aid service and to expand it to cover all parts of Jordan.

The meeting was attended by the Health Ministry Secretary General Anwar Bilbeisi, WHO representative in Jordan Abdul Aziz Abdul Majid, Civil Defence Director Gen. Khalid Tarawneh and other officials from Civil Defence and the Health Ministry.



ARAB CHILDREN: Children participating in the Eighth Arab Children's Congress Thursday visited the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) and were briefed on work being carried out to link Jordan's national grid with those of other Arab countries. The children's activities Thursday also

included a visit to the Sahab Industrial City near Amman where they toured a number of factories and watched industrial processes. The children's Friday's programme included visits to Jordanian families.

1 killed, 2 hurt in road accident

AMMAN (J.T.) — One person was killed and two others were injured in a road accident which involved four trucks on the Aqaba road Thursday. A report in the local press said that Yousef Al Muhtaseb, 42, and Mohammad Fadel and Ali Shafiq were injured in the accident, which resulted in the burning of the four vehicles.

The report said that one of the trucks was carrying sulphur, the second, sugar, the third, rice and the fourth vehicle was carrying phosphate when they collided 15 kilometres away from the port city.

The report, quoting eye witnesses, said that the collision resulted in a huge fire, instantly killing one of the drivers as others looked on helplessly.

According to the report, the fire would not have caused so much damage had the fire engines arrived on the scene early enough to deal with the situation.

It is believed that inflammable materials were in the trucks which caught fire soon after the collision.

In another incident reported by the Al Rai Arabic daily, one person was stabbed to death and several others were injured in a quarrel that occurred Thursday at Wehdat in Amman.

The report said that 38-year old S.A. died after being stabbed several times during a quarrel between members of two families living in Naharia district, during which both parties used knife, sticks and stones to fight.

The police were called in to end the fight and investigations are reportedly underway.

Mahafza receives French award

AMMAN (J.T.) — The French Ambassador to Jordan, Patrick Leclercq, Thursday, bestowed upon Dr. Ali Mahafza, president of Mu'ta University, the insignia of "Officier des Palmes Academiques" as a token of the French authorities' appreciation for his contribution to the development of the cultural cooperation between France and Jordan.

While recalling the links between Dr. Mahafza and the French universities as a doctor in

arts and human sciences of Paris 1, the French ambassador underlined the special interest given by France to Mu'ta University as a cradle for the specialised training of future officers of the Jordanian Armed Forces and Public Security as well as of the civilian personnel, "both contributing to the strength of the Jordanian state's structures."

He expressed the wish of the French authorities to develop their cooperation with Mu'ta which has already started through opening French courses within the university.

Urban planning seminar to be held in September

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day seminar on urban planning and development in the Greater Amman region will be held in September.

At least 90 participants representing Jordanian and Arab organisations will take part in the seminar, which will be organised by the Greater Amman Municipality in cooperation with the Arab Cities Organisation (ACO) and Jordanian institutions.

The seminar will focus on Greater Amman development, specifically problems in providing urban services, public participation in planning municipal services, the region's demographic growth and the use of land in the Amman area.

Also on the agenda will be subjects related to traffic, social services in the Amman region and prospects for expansion, according to municipality sources here.

Taking part in the seminar, which will be held at the Royal Cultural Centre, are representatives of the ACO, the Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences, the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation, the ministry of planning, the Arab Development Institute and the Greater Amman Municipality.



Remington Steele is back again on Thursdays at 9:10

10:00 News in English
10:20 Hunter
11:10 The Contract
Wed. — July 6, 1988

8:30 3 up 2 down
9:00 Documentaries
Numerous documentary programmes on different subjects as "Space on Earth". The Doc. is a six half-hour films which take a close look at architecture today.

9:30 Twilight Zone
Time and Space Yours to Command
10:00 News in English
10:20 Miniseries
Breaking Up

Tony Mailer is a gifted, well-adjusted 13-year-old schoolboy. He is a fine classical scholar and his public school housemaster thinks he has a talent for acting. But Tony's home-life presents a different picture.

8:30 Guinness Records
9:10 The Charmer
10:00 News in English
10:20 Falcon Crest
11:10 Three's Company

Khayyat to head pilgrimage mission

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Cabinet has formed a mission to lead Jordanian pilgrims performing this year's pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina.

The mission will be headed by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat and will group representatives of the Ministries of Health, Information and Awqaf.

The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs takes charge of affairs related to the annual pilgrimage, and has made arrangements for nearly 12,000 pilgrims from the East and West Banks, the Gaza Strip and areas occupied by Israel since 1948, to make the pilgrimage by land to Saudi Arabia. The ministry also arranged for their accommodation in the holy places.

The pilgrims complete their pilgrimage season just before the Eid Al Adha (feast of sacrifice) which is due around July 26.

In the meantime, the ministry says the first group of pilgrims, arriving into the East Bank from the occupied Arab territories, is due here Monday.

The pilgrims, arriving in nearly 100 buses in the coming week, will be housed at the pilgrims' camp in Ghor Nimein in the Jordan Valley which has been provided with all facilities for the convenience of the pilgrims, according to ministry officials.

They said that the pilgrims' stay at the camp will be for a few hours only before they continue their trip to Saudi Arabia.

The ministry said it plans a big ceremony Monday to welcome the pilgrims and provide them with their special information cards for the trip.

Ministry awards 4 contracts for 2nd stage of King Abdullah Mosque

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs has awarded four contracts to local companies to carry out the second stage of the King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Mosque in Amman.

This stage which will cost JD 135,000 entails covering the interior walls with marble stone and the additional domes with mosaics.

A fifth contract was signed for the preparation of designs for the third phase of the project which entails building multi-purpose auditoriums, a children's cultural

centre, a shopping centre and gardens.

Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat signed the contracts with the managers of the five companies.

In February 1988 the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs awarded three contracts to local companies to build a new minaret at a point where the Parliament and the police Academy Streets meet.

Apart from the 60-metre minaret the local company built a canopy covering the entrance to the mosque and the conference hall.

Ministry of Awqaf officials said that the second phase of the project is expected to be completed by October 1988 in time for the official opening on Prophet Mohammad's Birthday.

"JICA also has two experts and one coordinator who are involved in upgrading the level of training at the centre. This is in addition to training scholarships in Japan for the principal of the centre and eight instructors," the press release said.

Terauchi inspected JICA's

— OFFICE MOVED —
KOREA TRADE CENTER, AMMAN
To Housing Bank Centre (7th fl.), Shmeisani
New Tel: 684253, 684254

— Seagate —
20 MB JD 115
30 MB JD 118
TEL: 675049
Modern Computer Center
Tla-Al Ali

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — July 2, 1988

8:30 Mr. Belvedere
Half-Hour Comedy Series

Based on the classic Mr. Belvedere Features.

9:00 Alfred Hitchcock presents

A contemporary rendering of original show presented with entirely new cast, preceded with brief introduction by the master himself.

9:30 Variety Show

10:00 News in English

10:20 Feature Film
Between Two Women

Farrah Fawcett and Colleen Dewhurst star in a powerful psychological drama probing the love-hate relationship of a wife and her mother-in-law.

Sun. — July 3, 1988

8:30 Continuation of "Check it out."
New episode of "Are you being served"

9:10 Documentary
One hour "Back on the Frontier"

Francis Gerard's biting documentary attempts to provide a rare insight into the thoughts, hopes and fears of both white and black South Africans with particular reference to the recent programme of reform of the Apartheid Laws.

Documentary "Footsteps"

The 19th Century was a romantic period in the long history of archaeology. An age when the treasure seekers, plunderers and

well-meaning amateurs of the past began to give way to the scientists and professional archaeologists of the 20th Century. A time of spectacular discoveries and exotic stories to swell the store-rooms of European museums and excite the imagination of the world.

10:00 News in English

10:20 New Episode of the Equalizer

11:10 "Repeat" Fawly Towers

Mon. — July 4, 1988

8:30 Perfect Stranger

9:10 Secret Army

10:00 News in English

10:20 Movie of the week
Coal Miner's Daughter

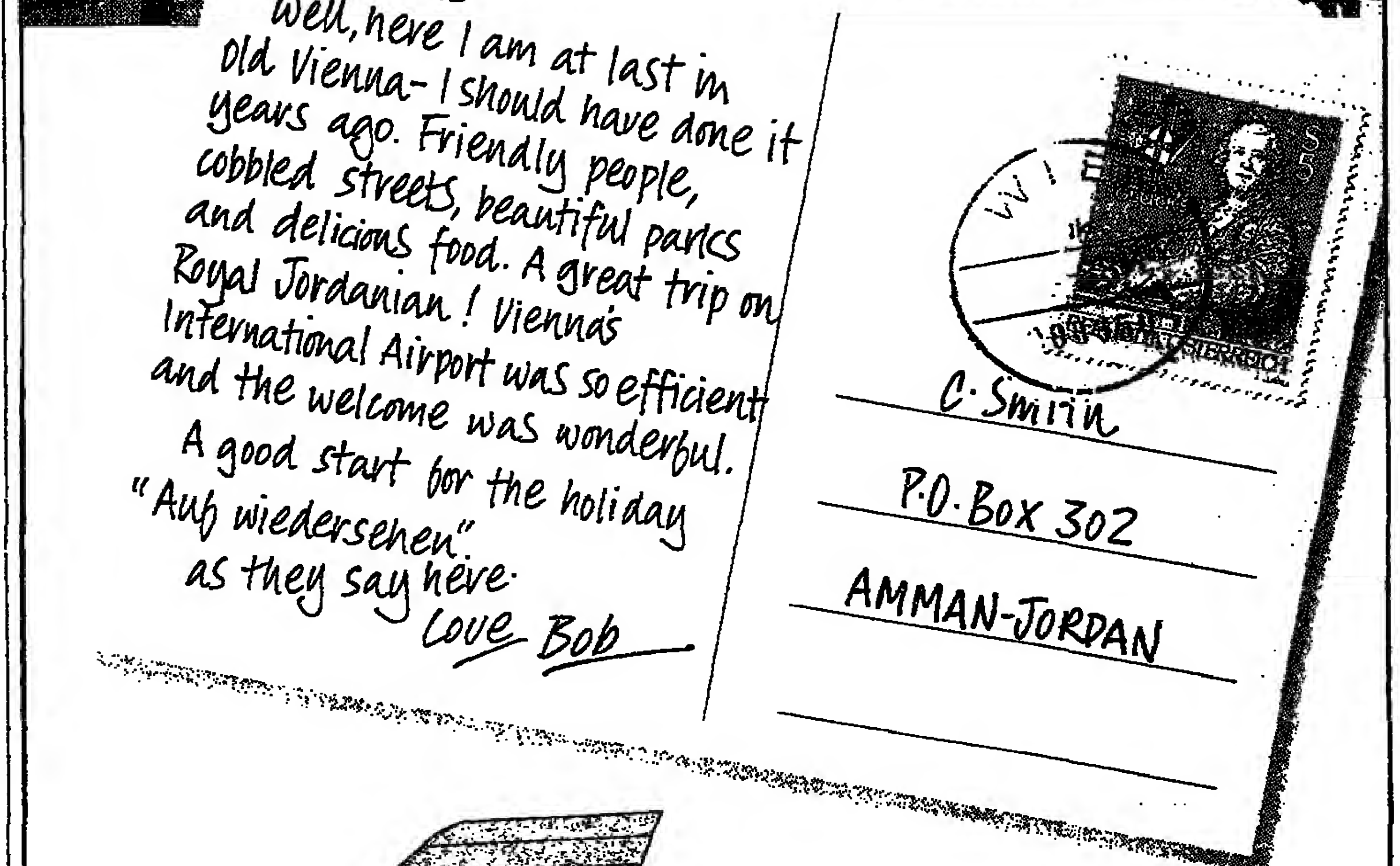
The wife of a Kentucky hillbilly becomes a pop star with its version of the old show business story gradual success, stardom, nervous breakdown. Based on the life of Toretalyn but mainly notable for its depiction of back woods Kentucky.

Tue. — July 5, 1988

8:30 I Married Dora

9:10 Floodtide
New series

Philip Sayer stars in the concluding episodes of this thriller as an English doctor whose peaceful life in France is shattered when he is reluctantly involved in the terrifying world of international drug-trafficking. Other stars include Connie Booth and Sybil Maas.



Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

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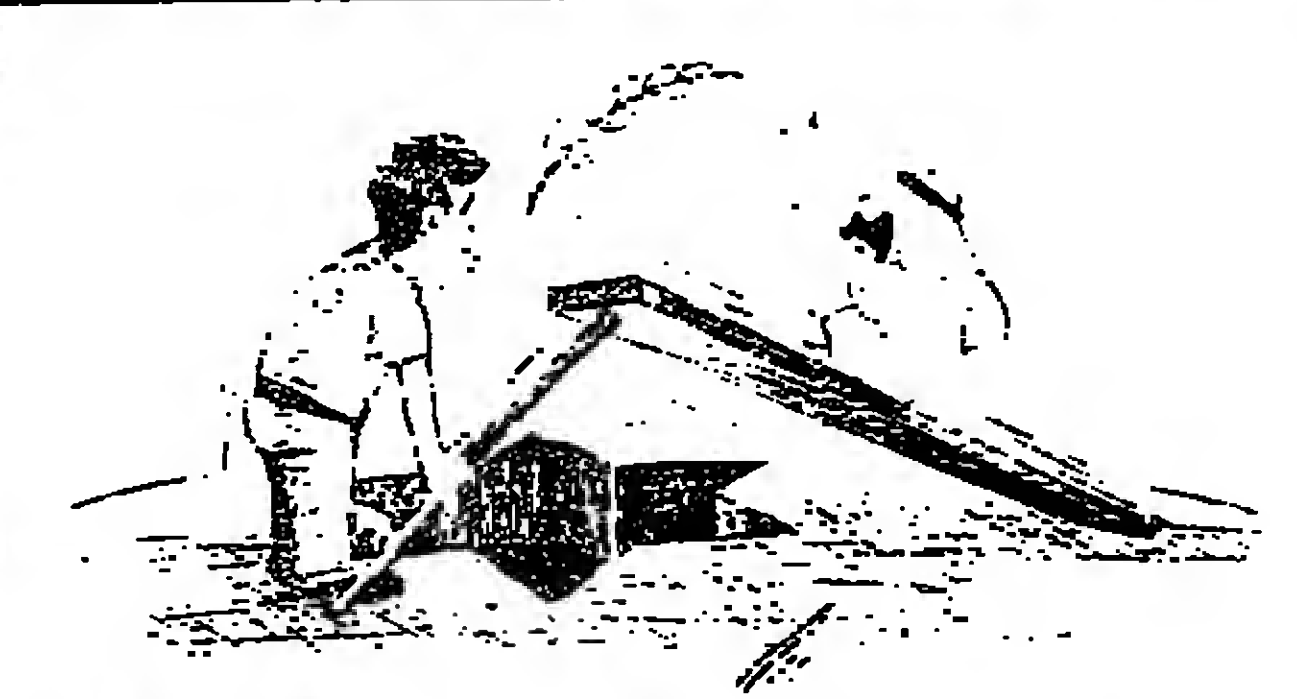
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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS



Al Ra'i - Rahab

Al Ra'i: Courts support terrorism

MILITARY courts in the occupied Arab territories are playing a shameful role by acting to support terrorist measures committed by Israeli troops against the Palestinian people. These troops have brought to a military court in Nablus 16 innocent Arab citizens accused of killing an Israeli settler at the village of Beitza despite the fact that investigations had proved that the settler was killed by Zionist agents on their way into that village. The 16 innocent people are now exposed to the full show of Zionist terrorism at the military court in Nablus which is acting against justice in broad daylight, and in defiance of all norms and principles. This farce is exposing the true nature of Zionism and refuting any claims of Israel's democracy before the world, and presenting the Jewish state as one characterised by terrorism and racism. World organisations and Amnesty International are called on now to interfere and put an end to this farce and innocent people's sufferings. The Palestinian people who are carrying on the fight for freedom will never be dissuaded from their national objectives through such terrorist actions and we are confident that Israeli terrorism and intimidation will never force the Arab people of Palestine to give up their rights and homeland.

Al Dustour: 'A wrong policy'

ISRAEL'S war minister Yitzhak Rabin admitted in Washington that it was wrong policy for his government to force Arab merchants to open their stores. He thought such admission would exempt him from the responsibility of crimes he and his troops had committed against the Palestinians. His statement came too late and after a great deal of repressive measures had been committed by the Israeli forces. Rabin in fact was not admitting any wrong done by his troops because that was official government policy to wage terrorist actions against the Palestinians. Rabin is a war criminal and cannot wash his hands of the crimes he and his troops continue to commit in occupied Palestine. Rabin and his soldiers' actions over the past six months can not be erased by a single statement made in Washington because the whole world continues to witness Israel's criminal behaviour. Nothing that Israel can do or say will ever remove the stigma of terrorism and the evil appearance of the Jewish state, nor will Rabin's statements ever improve the ugly face of occupation. Rabin had thought that his statements would be echoed and even praised by the Western media which would present him as a man that repented his actions against the oppressed people. He also hoped that by making such statements he would be rewarded with more U.S. weapons and economic assistance. In fact, he did win more support by such manoeuvres, but he can never change the course of history or end the Palestinian revolt.

Sawt Al Shaab: King seeks support

KING HUSSEIN has returned home after spending more efforts abroad trying to gain support and backing for Jordan and his Arab nation. His address to the Arab summit in Algiers presented a pan-Arab outline of the situation in our region and pointed to the challenges and dangers that the Arab people continue to face. The King reminded the other Arab heads of state of Jordan's deep commitments to the Palestinian cause and its national role in supporting the Palestinians and offering sacrifices in the course of helping them retain their national identity in the face of Zionist measures. The address in Algiers reiterated the Arab nation's commitment to peace, and underlined the importance of maintaining close contacts and consultations among Arab leaders and joint action for the sake of thwarting the enemy's conspiracies.

Thursday's Al Ra'i: Murphy's unfavourable mission

RICHARD Murphy's mission in the Gulf countries could be considered as unfavourable for the Arabs because it ended with the U.S. envoy's announcement that the American administration is still adhering to its own position with regard to Saudi Arabia's purchases of Chinese missiles. Washington, he said, insists on conducting inspection of the missiles bought earlier this year. Murphy spoke in Qatar, urging its government to return the Stinger missiles which that Gulf state had bought on the international market. While Murphy was making his statements at the conclusion of his unsuccessful tour of the Gulf, Israel's war minister Yitzhak Rabin was in Washington seeking additional U.S. weapons and military and economic assistance for his Jewish state. Rabin is seeking weapons to counter what he called the long-range missiles bought by the Arab countries in the Middle East, because, he said, such missiles threatened Israel's security. We can only conclude that Murphy's statements about Qatar's and Saudi Arabia's missiles were directed by Israel and its desires. Murphy's statements clearly reflect Rabin's current talks in Washington and come at a time when the U.S. continues to supply Israel with weapons and economic assistance to consolidate its hold on the occupied Arab territories.

Al Dustour: U.S. increases Israeli rewards

IT seems that the United States is bent on increasing its rewards to Israel for its continued aggressive policies against the Arabs and its rejection of peace bids, including the Shultz initiative. The White House announced that it was preparing a memorandum of understanding with Israel to help it develop its missile systems. But the U.S. did not do anything to curb Israel's intransigent policies towards peace in the Middle East, nor did it employ any pressure that could help Israeli leaders change their present position. In fact, Washington's attitude in this respect is to be considered as an encouragement to Israel to pursue its aggressive and expansionist and terrorist policies in our region. Washington is still closing its eyes and ears on Israel's atrocities in the occupied Palestinian lands and is rewarding Israel's war minister with new pledges for arms and economic assistance in return for his direction of repressive measures against the Arab population.

'Protection against acts of hate violence'

By James Abourezk

The following is the full text of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) Chairman James Abourezk's testimony before the committee on the Judiciary on June 21, 1988. Abourezk's testimony focuses on the question of hate violence against Arab-Americans and is supportive of current legislation that would require the Justice Department to maintain records of such incidents.

Permit me to congratulate the chairman and other members who have co-sponsored this legislation. It is legislation that has been needed for some time now. I believe that the Justice Department's recording of incidents of hate violence, and the subsequent publication of those incidents will go a long way toward putting an end to them.

Like so many things in this kind of work, most Americans would be opposed to acts of hate violence... if they knew about them. Certainly community pressure can work toward stopping such activities — pressure which would be applied effectively once the community became aware of what is being done.

I want to speak briefly about the objectives of the committee which I founded and of which I am chairman — the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC). We are a service organisation to people of Arab descent in the United States and in Canada. We are by far the largest Arab-American organisation in the United States, with more than 22,000 paid members organised into nearly 70 chapters around the United States, and we now have several chapters in Canada.

We provide assistance to our constituency in areas of immigration, discrimination, and of course, protection against acts of hate violence. We also of course, involve ourselves in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, insuring where we can a free flow of information on the conflict to the

American public. We take positions on American policy in the Middle East and our members are active in party politics both on the local and national level.

We began keeping a log of acts of hate violence against people of Arab descent in America following the murder by members of the Jewish Defence League of one of my staff members, Alex Odeh, in Santa Ana, California. Alex was our west coast regional director, a Palestinian by birth, an American by choice and was totally non-confrontational by nature. He died when he opened the door of the ADC office in Santa Ana on the morning of October 11, 1985. A bomb had been wired to the inside of the door, set to be triggered when the door was pulled open. Normally, the secretary for the office opened in the morning, but on that day she came late because of errands she had to run.

The point of this is to tell you that it was ADC, an Arab American organisation, that was targeted, and not an individual. One must understand the background to understand the role that racism, depersonalisation, and hate violence played in that particular assassination. The Achille Lauro had been hijacked, a crime that was on the front pages and was the lead television news story for days. It was a great opportunity for demagoguery on the part of President Reagan and other politicians, all of whom played it to the hilt. The object of their demagoguery was, of course, to make themselves more popular.

The target was "Arab terrorists," and, in short, "Arabs." There was a great deal of animosity stirred up by opinion leaders against Arabs in general during that period. It was in this political surrounding that whomever planted the bomb that killed Alex Odeh must have believed that his death would go virtually unnoticed, the atmosphere so ugly, that there would be no popular outcry against it. It was very much like the atmosphere created by the Nazis in Germany in the 1930s — first dehumanising the Jews, then "perpetrating their worst treatment, all the while knowing there would be no outcry."

In the case of Alex Odeh, if indeed that of behind the timing of the bombing, it worked. There was virtually no coverage of the death. Only Jay Matthews, the Los Angeles correspondent of the Washington Post, wrote a story giving Alex's killing something more than the brief treatment it was given in most of the press. The Des Moines Register perhaps expressed the concern of most of the media. Their headline read, "Arafat Man of Peace - Boom!" referring to Alex's TV interview the night before in which Alex had said that Yasser Arafat sought peace for the Palestinians.

Of course, everyone knew all about Leon Klinghoffer, the unfortunate American who was murdered aboard the Achille Lauro. Reagan called his family; there were innumerable stories of his life in the newspapers; Senator D'Amato proposed the Congressional Medal of Honour for him; but Alex Odeh remained anonymous, his family only receiving death threats if they went through with his funeral a few days later.

The same kind of hatred against Arabs as an ethnic group seems to follow publicised incidents in the Middle East, such as the hoopa surrounding the bombing of Tripoli, Libya, and the demagoguery which led up to it. Perhaps politicians and members of media can begin to understand that their words of hatred are taken at face value by crazies in the society at large, making them believe they have permission to cross the line. I would like to believe that collection and publication of such violent acts will serve to make opinion leaders think twice before contributing to hatred of any ethnic group.

There is a reason for hate violence. And there is a more paramount reason for stopping it, mostly because it is dangerous, and because it fosters physical violence. It must be stopped in any way possible, and I believe this legislation is a proper part of that stopping.

I hope the committee does not accept the argument by the Justice Department that the costs of keeping such logs are too great. It is a specious argument that has no place in such a serious matter, much like their argument that one can't determine motives in such crimes. That is not even a serious question. When Jews find their synagogue pointed with swastikas, or when Arabs find their mosque defaced with anti-Arab slogans, even the attorney general would be able to determine the motive.

In addition, the argument that the kinds of crimes should be limited has no real standing. What is important is trying to figure out patterns of behaviour, and the lesser crimes most certainly would assist in determining the pattern of hate violence toward any ethnic group.

'The army entered and opened fire'

Editor's note: This is another part of the "uprising update" documented by the Palestinian Human Rights Information Centre and distributed in cooperation with the Database Project on Palestinian Human Rights based in Chicago.

House demolition I: The case of Abdul Aziz Shahatit

ON APRIL 25, 1988, an Israeli army bulldozer took 15 minutes to push down the walls of the house of Abdul Aziz Shahatit had been constructing for his family since 1983, in the tiny hamlet of Khoursa in the Hebron district. Israeli military authorities said the construction was "unlicensed" but Shahatit, license in hand, was still in the process of appealing through the courts when the bulldozer came and ended the discussion.

Abdul Aziz Shahatit is a 30-year-old construction labourer who builds houses for Israeli Jews in Bir Saba. For the past six years he has saved most of his earnings and used the money to buy building materials to construct a much-needed house for his family. He and his wife and four children currently live in a single rented room in Khoursa.

Before beginning construction, Shahatit dutifully applied for a building license from the nearest municipality, Dura, in 1983. Dura Mayor Abdul Fattah Duden granted the license on November 19, 1983, after Shahatit submitted the required full plans and maps of the area, at a cost of \$750. The license was renewed in November 1985, for an additional fee of \$80, and Shahatit continued the slow work of building his house himself. He built two rooms, a kitchen and a bathroom but did not yet have money for the roof.

In July 1986 Shahatit was surprised to receive a letter from the head of the planning department in Hebron, an Israeli settler known only as Marco, ordering him to stop work and asserting that the area in which he was working was under their jurisdiction.

Shahatit went immediately to Mayor Duden and demanded an explanation. Duden, who was appointed to office by the Israeli military authorities, claimed that the license he had given was legal and that the planning department was at fault. He promised to talk to the planning department. Shahatit also approached attorney Walid Fahoum, who wrote to Duden the same month. A month later Duden told Shahatit to "wait until the problem between the municipality and the planning department is solved."

He wrote to Fahoum, however, that the licenses issued by the Dura municipality for areas outside its boundaries had all been cancelled. Fahoum approached the planning department and was told that his client would have to reapply for a building license from the beginning through them.

In March 1987 Shahatit was summoned to appear before a hearing at the planning department in Ramallah on March 17. There he was ordered to stop building and was given 15 days to demolish the work he had done so far. The pretext used was that the house was 30 metres (it is 33 metres) and not the "required" 70 metres from the nearest road. He was told that should he fail to demolish his house it would be destroyed for him, and he would be fined \$500 to cover the expense of the demolition. He would also be tried before the military court for contravening the planning laws.

On May 5, 1987, Shahatit again went before the planning department in Ramallah. This time he had the assistance of Shimon Stein, an Israeli lawyer and former employee of the Legal Advisor's Office in the military headquarters at Beit El. Stein argued that there were other buildings like Shahatit's that were as close to the road or closer, including the government-built school (13 metres from the road). He also argued that Shahatit should not be punished for a mistake that was administrative and not his and that, should the house be destroyed, the Dura council should compensate him for the loss.

From May 1987 to April 1988 Stein and Shahatit heard nothing about the case. Then Stein received a letter from Beit El informing him that the house would be destroyed. He immediately notified the authorities that he was taking the case to the High Court. Shahatit said he was sitting on his sister's balcony when he saw a bulldozer go down the road to Beit Awwa and then return an hour later and stop in front of his house. He ran to tell the soldiers and Marco that his lawyer was appealing to the High Court but they told him to move aside. They then destroyed the house.

Tear gas death report: Mohammad Samhan

ON APRIL 24, 1988, during the Muslim month of Ramadan, 52-year-old Mohammad Samhan died following exposure to CS tear gas. He was a resident of Ras Karkar village (Ramallah), the father of 6 girls (2 married) and 3 boys and unemployed except for working on the family's small plot of land. Samhan was literate, although he had been forced to leave school after finishing the sixth grade.

Ras Karkar has been the target of an increasing number of attacks from the army and settlers from the nearby settlement, Dalab. Since the beginning of the intifada over 40 people have been arrested and 30 olive trees uprooted. Settlers, often accompanied by soldiers, have caused extensive damage in the village, breaking windows and damaging furniture and automobiles. Settlers have also shot at water tanks and at the local mosque.

On April 23 at about 8:00 p.m., the army entered the village and

opened fire on demonstrators who had gathered after the iftar (evening meal breaking the Ramadan daily fast). Samhan was observing the events from his window when soldiers shot eight CS canisters in the vicinity of his house. The canisters fell directly below the window where he was sitting and the smoke quickly surged upwards, engulfing him in excessive amount of the gas. The design on the house, which is old with many openings, allowed the smoke to enter quickly and in large quantities.

Samhan immediately complained about pain in his chest and a burning sensation in his nose and throat. His eyes were also burning and tearing excessively and he was unable to open them. Within half an hour Samhan went to rest on his mattress, feeling nauseated and very weak. Throughout the night he was unable to sleep and ran a high fever. At about 3:30 a.m., at the time of the Sahur (last meal before the next day's fast), the army reappeared. They lit up the village with flares and fired rubber bullets and tear gas canisters at a small group of demonstrators. Samhan's home was again hit, with three or four CS canisters.

After this second attack Samhan complained about stomach pain and began vomiting a mixture of blood and a black substance. At about 4:00 a.m. his face turned blue, he was sweating profusely and he had great difficulty breathing. Within minutes he was dead.

Tear gas death report: Samer Ali Juma'a Badaha

ON SUNDAY, January 10, 1988, Deir Ammar Refugee Camp (Ramallah) was the site of violent clashes between camp residents and Israeli soldiers. Palestinians blocked the entrance to the camp, burned tires and threw stones at the army.

Wasafia Badaha and her four-month-old infant, Samer, were in their home when the army stormed the camp, firing live ammunition, rubber bullets and a variety of tear gas bombs. Samer was asleep in his crib when the army shot tear gas no more than 100 metres away from their home. It was very windy and the concentrated gas was blown in the direction of the house.

There was no glass on the windows so the house soon filled with a cloudy white smoke. Wasafia, watching events from another room, felt the effects of the gas immediately. Her eyes burned and began tearing; she also felt a stinging sensation in her nasal passages and coughed and spit an excessive amount of saliva.

Wasafia did not notice any similar symptoms in the baby other than light coughing, which persisted on and off throughout the afternoon until he went to sleep at about 6:00 p.m. He did not awaken and when Wasafia awoke the next morning he was dead. His entire body,

especially his face, was blue and a yellow-like substance had dried on the side of his mouth. Samer was not taken to a hospital nor was he seen by a medical worker. His parents and family buried him January 11.

Wasafia is a young, and simple refugee camp woman who was not familiar with the proper steps to take in such cases.

Despite stinging defeats on front, Iran refuses to accept end to war

By Ed Blanche
The Associated Press

NICOSIA — Iraq's recapture of the Majnoon Islands in the Howzeibah marshes, pushing the Iraqis out of their last foothold in southern Iraq, underlines how Baghdad has seized the initiative in the Gulf war. But Iran vows it will fight on.

The Majnoon battle was the third time in nine weeks that the Iraqis, employing innovative tactics, massed firepower and a new spirit to defeat the Iraqis, who appeared to have been caught off-guard.

With a fourth offensive apparently nibbling away at Iran's last bridgehead in the northern Kurdistan mountains, the Iraqis' success in driving the Iraqis out has dramatically changed the military balance in the nearly eight-year-old war.

The battlefield defeats have intensified Iranian disarray

U.S. voters must choose between two images of Dukakis

By Christopher Hanson
Reuters

BILOXI, Missouri — U.S. voters are being presented with two drastically different portraits of Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis.

The outcome of the race for the White House will depend largely on which image of him Americans buy on election day in November.

Massachusetts Governor Dukakis is painting one canvas, a naturally flattering self-portrait to which he added some brushstrokes on a campaign visit to Biloxi, Missouri, and other cities in the conservative south.

Composed to attract moderate and conservative voters, the picture shows a tough-as-nails leader who slashes taxes and budget deficits and wages war on crime and drugs, standing squarely with the police and the American family.

"I've got a record. I've balanced nine budgets in a row. I've cut taxes five times in five years. I'm waging a real war, not a phony war, against drugs," the man who has the Democratic nomination for president wrapped up told an impromptu news conference in Montgomery, Alabama.

But an unflattering image of Dukakis is being offered around the country by Republican presidential candidate George Bush and his backers.

This portrays Dukakis as a weak, tax-happy big-spending ultra-liberal, soft on crime and determined to erode America's defences — hardly the sort of man that southerners, conservatives or even moderates should consider.

The image battle was waged fiercely during Dukakis's three-day, seven-state swing through the south, which is Vice-President Bush's strongest region because of southern suspicion of northern liberals.

Dukakis, 54, sought to allay those suspicions by stressing a tough-on-crime, anti-drug theme in a flurry of campaign stops to attract favourable notice in local news media.

In carefully-staged "photo opportunities," he posed with police officers and appeared at anti-drug counselling centres, speaking forcefully, jabbing his finger for emphasis.

He also paid a courtesy call on one-time arch segregationist George Wallace, the ailing former Democratic governor of Alabama who is still very popular. Videotape of a Dukakis-Wallace handshake was shown around the state.

In an evident bid to toughen his image, he used the word "tough" dozens of times.

"We need tough, sustained, unrelenting law enforcement — on the ground, in the air, and at sea — at home and abroad, including use of the military where appropriate," he declared.

"What did the Democratic governor of Massachusetts think he was doing," Bush demanded.

Dukakis aides said 22 states run by Republican governors had similar far-fought programmes and that California had such a programme when President Reagan, to whom Bush has sworn undying loyalty, was governor there.

Associates of Bush tried to ambush Dukakis's parade through the South, arriving in some of the same cities a day before the Democrat to assault his record.

A recent NBC-Wall Street Journal opinion poll revealed some potential Dukakis weaknesses.

It found that Bush held 51-31 per cent lead on the question of which candidate would be better at maintaining a strong defence. Four in 10 voters thought Dukakis was too inexperienced in foreign policy to be a good president.

But Dukakis leads Bush overall by up to 15 points in opinion polls nationwide.

And to the surprise of many pundits, two recent polls showed him leading the vice-president narrowly in the South. Local Democrats now give him a fighting chance to carry key southern states such as Texas.

Despite the opinion polls, many political experts expect the race to be close.

Iraq has said it would abide by last July's resolution if Iran did. But Tehran insists that Iraq must first be branded "the aggressor."

amid signs of political unrest. It has also forced Iran to abandon its long-held strategy of attrition, using its 3-1 edge in manpower to gradually smother Iraq's superior firepower and regroup for retaliatory assaults.

Having wrenched the initiative away from the Iraqis with unexpected ease, some Western military analysts believe that Iraq may now be in a position for the first time in years, to break the stalemate on the battlefield.

But others believe the Iraqis' new strategy after years of fighting a static war from behind their formidable defences and Iran's expected retaliation signals another bout of heavy fighting in the coming months.

The Iraqis drove the Iraqis out of the Pao Peninsula April 18, ending a two-year occupation, and a bridgehead around Salamcheh east of the blockaded port city of Basra May 25.

The Iraqis fought to within 10 kilometres of Basra in early 1987, suffering appalling losses,

that Tehran would accept the United Nations Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire.

Iraq has said it would abide by the last July's resolution if Iran did. But Tehran insists that Iraq must first be branded "the aggressor."

One of the provisions of the resolution was a return to pre-war borders. Since Iran held parts of Iraq while its foe held a position to demand concessions. Now, it has little to bargain with.

The Iranian defeats appear to have deepened divisions in Tehran about the conduct of the war, which by some Western estimates more than 500,000 Iraqis have been killed.

Hardline prevails

But Iran's hardliners, who made sweeping gains in recent

non-military solutions to the war.

But he stressed he saw little prospect of Baghdad conceding it started the war and paying billions in reparations. There fore, he said, "We are planning to continue the war until victory."

Tehran's difficulty in mobilising its people was widely seen as a key reason there was no major offensive during the winter, the first time in six years there has been none.

Mehdi Bazargan, the Islamic republic's first prime minister whose Freedom Movement is the only opposition party allowed to function, issued a statement demanding an end to the war, accusing Khomeini of "criminal policies."

In the past, authorities have ignored Bazargan's criticisms. But this time Revolutionary Guards seized his headquarters and arrested several of his aides.

Bazargan is believed to have fled the capital and gone underground.

20 years of occupation

Following is the final part of a six-part collection of briefing papers on legal aspects of Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. The briefing papers were drawn up by Al Haq, a West Bank affiliate of the International Commission of Jurists.

Briefing Paper No. 6:

Suppression of academic, cultural and political life

FROM the beginning of the occupation the Israeli authorities have kept tight control over the Palestinian population's educational, cultural and political activities. They have done so by a variety of means.

Education: Five independent universities have opened their gates or expanded their scope in the occupied territories since the mid-1970s to provide an education to those whose access to universities in the Arab World had become cut off by restrictions on movement from and to the West Bank and Gaza. The Israeli authorities, however, have imposed restrictions on and otherwise interfered with academic freedom throughout the occupation. The promulgation of military order 834 in 1980 caused an uproar for the wide powers it gave to the military authorities to supervise and restrict higher education in the territories. Although the order so far has not been implemented, it also has not been revoked, and could be applied at any time.

The military authorities have used their wide powers of arrest under military order 378 to detain students, often without pressing charges or bringing them to trial. Administrative measures against student leaders are frequent. Two student leaders from Birzeit University and Al Najah University were deported to Jordan in May 1987.

Universities are frequently closed down by military order, sometimes for months at a time. Birzeit University currently faces a four-month closure order. Military checkpoints on roads leading to universities have led to de facto closures. For example, army checkpoints were placed on the main road to Birzeit University 36 times during the 1985-86 academic year. Three students died and many were injured after Israeli soldiers opened fire at Birzeit University at two occasions during the past half year. The universities have been harassed in other ways as well, including through censorship and confiscation as well as prevention of importation of books and periodicals, impositions of customs duties on educational, scientific and cultural materials contrary to Article 1 of the UNESCO Agreement of 1950, and interference with cultural activities like exhibits.

Al Haq continues to be concerned with the authorities' practice of arresting high-school students at the time of their tawjihi exams and then releasing them without charges as soon as the exams have ended, thus forcing them to lose a year of their studies. Although the authorities notified Al Haq in a letter that they do not condone this practice, Al Haq continues to receive information about such cases.

Press and publications: There is a measure of press freedom in the occupied territories. Operating licenses have been granted to a

AL-HAQ

LAW IN THE SERVICE OF MAN



number of papers based in East Jerusalem. Press freedom is curtailed, however, by the editors' obligation to submit all materials they intend to publish to the military censor in West Jerusalem. Thus parts of articles and sometimes articles in their entirety are excised from the daily and weekly papers by the authorities. The authorities can close down papers by virtue of the (defunct) British defence regulations of 1945, and have done so on at least four occasions in the last two years alone.

According to censorship rules, all written materials that are imported, distributed, published or simply in someone's possession in the occupied territories are subject to military scrutiny. The possession of no publication is permitted in the occupied territories unless a permit has been obtained for each particular publication from the military authorities. The authorities have issued a list, now comprising 417 titles, of publications for which no permit can be obtained. The authorities have used the blanket prohibition selectively, for example to convict individuals against whom they hold suspicions unrelated to their possession of certain publications, but against whom they are unable to bring sufficient evidence. In one recent example, a person was convicted to the period of pre-trial detention for the possession of illegal publications after having been interrogated about unrelated activities.

Cultural activities: Cultural life under occupation also faces serious restrictions imposed by the military authorities. Al Hakawati Theatre in East Jerusalem has been closed fourteen times since it opened its doors in 1983, seven closures taking place in the past three months alone. Artists and writers, including journalists, have been placed under town arrest and administrative detention, or have been deported. Many have been prohibited from travelling abroad. The authorities have also on occasion closed down social and youth centers in refugee camps, and arrested or harassed members of voluntary work committees.

Political freedoms: Political life has been closely circumscribed under occupation. No municipal elections have been held since 1976, and the authorities have cracked down on any person who was spoken out in any way that could be interpreted as being political. Prominent community leaders and activists in mass organisations and professional associations, including mayors, trade union leaders, teachers, student activists and others, continue to be deported, administratively detained, or placed under town arrest. In this sense the often-voiced Israeli claim that there is nobody to negotiate with among the Palestinians in the occupied territories has some validity: the authorities have consistently removed any emerging local leadership.

Deprived of its local leadership and muzzled in its political and cultural expression, the Palestinian population of the occupied territories has been systematically thwarted in the aspiration it shares with Palestinians everywhere: to exercise its most basic right, the right of self-determination.

Writers demand closure of Israeli jail

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli and Palestinian artists Thursday demanded the closure of a tent prison in southern Israel which Arab inmates have dubbed "the gateway to hell."

Siam Daud, an Israeli Arab writer, told the AP as many as 50 Israeli and Palestinian artists would demonstrate Saturday outside Ketzot prison in the southern Negev Desert.

The group issued a statement calling on the government "to close the prison and release all its prisoners as a first step on the way to peace between the Israeli and Palestinian nations."

The tent prison was established a few months ago to house Palestinians arrested during the nearly seven-month-old uprising.

About 5,000 Palestinians are currently in jail in Israeli prisons, including about 2,000 being held without charges for up to six months in so-called administrative detention.

The majority of the administrative detainees are held at Ketzot where inmates have said they live in inhuman conditions.

Saturday's demonstration is being organized by a joint committee of Jewish and Palestinian writers, artists and academics from Israel and the West Bank who signed a "peace treaty" two weeks ago. The treaty calls for independent Israeli and Palestinian states.

Daud said the demonstration was in response to an appeal by 15 Palestinian intellectuals jailed in Ketzot who signed the treaty. In two letters smuggled out of the prison, the inmates complained about harsh prison conditions and asked for help. "If hell existed, this jail would be the main gate," the Palestinians wrote in one letter.

Carbomb kills 1, injures 32 in busy Beirut street

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A car bomb exploded in West Beirut's busy Hamra street Friday, killing at least one person and wounding 32, police said.

A police spokesman said the car bomb detonated at 11:50 a.m. (0850 GMT), near the Grand Hotel, which once also housed the plush Versailles cinema. The theatre is closed because of damage it sustained in civil war fighting.

The spokesman could not immediately confirm a state radio report that the man who was killed in the blast was the driver of the automobile.

He said the car was rigged with 10 kilograms of TNT. The explosion occurred near Syrian intelligence headquarters police said.

"Most of the people wounded were buying food or entering (a nearby) mosque for Friday prayers," said a civil defence rescuer. Witnesses said shrapnel sliced through the air, at least 10 cars were damaged and shattered glass littered the streets.

Syrian troops fired in the air to keep back the crowds and sealed off all roads to the bomb site.

"Oh my God, my son is missing. For God's sake please help me find my son," shouted a distraught woman, her veil spattered with blood.

The explosion started a fire which rapidly spread, gutting three buildings and damaging dozens of shops.

Firemen in green fatigues struggled to bring the fire under control. Rings of black smoke spiralled above the neighbourhood. Sirens of ambulances sounded across the capital. Roads leading to hospitals were cleared of all other traffic.

Syrian troops stopped photographers from approaching the area and confiscated films.

The blast was the latest apparently aimed at Syrian troops who deployed in west Beirut last year to quell violence in the city.

The blast came nine days after a car bomb exploded in east

Beirut's Karantina neighbourhood wounding 19 people. Friday's was the sixth car bombing in Lebanon this year. Ninety-three people were killed and 252 wounded in the previous blasts.

In a Lebanon-related development, Palestinian groups, trade unions and members of the Palestine National Council (PNC) living in Kuwait urged Arab leaders to find an end to an onslaught by Damascus-backed dissidents against Beirut refugee camps.

The call was contained in a cable sent Thursday to Arab leaders, urging them to "intervene immediately and end the bloodshed at Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut."

The cable followed a sit-in Thursday night at the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) office in Kuwait. A large number of Palestinians attended and chanted slogans condemning Saeed Musa, leader of the break-away Fateh-Uprising faction, whose fighters overran the Shatila refugee camp in Beirut this week.

The cable warned that Palestinians in Lebanon were facing a "war of extermination."

Britain has evidence hostages are alive

LONDON (AP) — The government has evidence that Britons held hostage in Lebanon are alive, but is uncertain about the fate of Anglican envoy Terry Waite, a Foreign Office spokesman said Thursday.

Based on conversations with freed French hostages in May, British diplomats "were able to draw encouragement" that journalist John McCarthy and lecturer Brian Keenan are alive, said the spokesman.

"But so far as Terry Waite is concerned, we've got no hard evidence about his well-being or whereabouts," the spokesman said. He said the British diplomats gained no evidence regarding the nine Americans believed held captive by extremists in Lebanon.

Earlier Thursday, Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe told the House of Commons that the government had received evidence the British hostages were alive. He did not say what the evidence was. He said there was "no certain clarity" about the captives but that the government was "constantly seeking evidence, seeking material."

The statements confirmed earlier reports that former French hostages Jean-Paul Kauffmann and Marcel Fontaine, freed with fellow Frenchman Marcel Carton May 4, had provided the British government evidence that the captive Britons remain alive.

He reiterated Thursday that Britain would not compromise its policy of refusing to negotiate with kidnappers.

"We are prepared to talk to anyone who we think might be able to help," he told the House of Commons. "But there is no compromise in our determination not to make concessions to secure the release of hostages."

He demanded "substantial and sustained changes" from Iran before it could have a "normal relationship" with the rest of the world.

13 killed in Iraqi raid

(Continued from page 1)

Minister Mehdi Bazargan, have stepped up their anti-war propaganda. They have tried to organize a postcard campaign, urging people to relay their opposition to the war to the authorities by mail.

In Bonn, Iraq's foreign minister Friday admitted that his country had used chemical weapons. Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz was asked at a news conference about Iranian allegations that Iraq had used the deadly weapons against the Gulf war foe.

"The U.N. report says both sides have used them. Iran started its use. We were victims many times, since the early beginning of the conflict," Aziz said.

Asked if both his country and Iran had used such weapons, he replied: "Both sides."

It was the first direct admission by Iraq that it has used chemical weapons in its war with Iran.

The United Nations Security Council has condemned the use of chemical weapons in the Iran-Iraq war, and their general use is outlawed by international agree-

ment. Aziz said Iran started the war by invading Iraq and that his country had the right to choose the means for its defence. "Every nation has the right to protect itself against invasion," Aziz said.

Aziz defended his country's use of chemical weapons in the war, saying Iran was a "great threat" to Iraq.

"There are different views on this matter from different angles. You are living on a civilized continent. You are living on a peaceful continent," Aziz told Western reporters.

He accused Iran of not only using chemical weapons, but also of violating international accords on the treatment of war prisoners.

"Lately 7,000 Iraqi prisoners of war disappeared. We don't yet know what their destiny is," said Aziz.

"When we want peace, we have to respect all conventions. But you cannot say I'm going to respect all these conventions and give the other side the liberty not to respect them," he added.

Soviet debate concludes

(Continued from page 1)

issued in advance of the gathering came too late and central committee members were not consulted sufficiently in drafting them, he declared.

"The party exists for the people and the people should know everything it does," Yeltsin said in an apparent reference to the fact that his offending address last October was never published although widely condemned.

Gorbachev's "perestroika," he said, was still encountering many difficulties "which means that everyone of us is not putting in enough effort, is not struggling hard enough for it."

Yeltsin's impassioned appeal was promptly rebuffed by Krem-

lin number two Yegor Ligachev. The clash between the two arch-rivals, who in popular image symbolise the left and right of the Soviet political spectrum, climaxed the conference that has altered the public face of the Kremlin power structure.

The 67-year-old Ligachev delivered a speech clearly aimed at dispersing the widespread view of him as a conservative resisting Gorbachev's reform programme.

Ligachev told the 4,991 delegates that: — He had been instrumental in bringing Yeltsin into the leadership; — He had helped ensure the election of Gorbachev as party leader in March 1985.

Likud elects candidates in U.S.-style convention

TEL AVIV (AP) — Former Prime Minister Menachem Begin's son and once-U.N. ambassador Benjamin Netanyahu were among a dozen political newcomers chosen Thursday to spice up the ruling Herut party's slate for the November elections.

The balloting during an American-style convention at a seaside resort also strengthened Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir over his two rivals, Deputy Premier David Levy and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon.

Herut is the senior partner of Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc. The party was founded by the older Begin as an outgrowth of his pre-state Etzel underground gang.

Herut objects to withdrawing from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, contending that those areas are an integral part of the "Biblical land of Israel."

During the convention at the Herzliya country club north of Tel Aviv, many of the 104 candidates used American-style gimmicks to attract the attention of the party's 2,092 central committee members who selected the 35-member slate.

Candidates showered delegates with buttons, stickers, balloons, wine and perfume — campaign methods new to Israel, which once boasted of being a country of rugged pioneers.

The convention appeared to be an effort to strengthen the party's

populist image. It was also an attempt to keep up with the left-of-centre Labour Party whose convention earlier this month was marked by carnival-style antics.

Labour, which favours "territorial compromise" to resolve the Middle East conflict, is Likud's main political rival.

Pollsters predict a close race between the two parties. Begin and Netanyahu are among 14 Shamir supporters chosen for the slate. Allies of Sharon and Levy won only five and seven spots respectively.

Shamir, pleased by the results, told reporters: "We have an excellent list which will also give the public incentive to vote for us."

Netanyahu won the highest number of votes with 1,408. Begin came in third with 1,233. Second was Iranian-born Moshe Katsav, a labour minister in Shamir's cabinet.

In the balloting, committee members had to cast votes for 21 of the 104 candidates. The top 35 vote getters made the slate, but only about 30 have realistic chance of being elected to parliament.

The 35 candidates will be ranked on the slate in another party election next week. The No. 1 spot is reserved for Shamir.

Under Israel's electoral system, voters choose a party, not individual candidates.

Demjanjuk appeals conviction

TEL AVIV (AP) — Retired U.S. autoworker John Demjanjuk has appealed his conviction and death sentence for Nazi war crimes, contending a "lynch atmosphere" made a fair trial impossible.

The 101-page appeal also asked the supreme court to reverse the conviction "due to lack of proof and much more than substantial doubt" that Demjanjuk was a Nazi guard.

Demjanjuk, 68, was sentenced to hang April 25, a week after being found guilty of operating the gas chambers that killed 850,000 people at the Treblinka camp in Nazi-occupied Poland.

The Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk claims he is a victim of mistaken identity. Speaking in an interview at the supreme court, attorney Yoram Sheftel said the appeal challenged "every finding of the court as far as facts and legal aspects" and accused the three district court judges of acting in a "biased and uncivilised way."

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Iraq, Jordan fail to solve trade crisis

AMMAN (R) — Talks between Iraq and Jordan on a \$100 million payment crisis have made no headway but a senior official said Thursday both sides would meet again in mid-July.

"There is enough room for optimism," Trade Minister Hamdi Tabaa told Reuters. "Both countries have the goodwill to settle the issue... we expect positive results."

He declined to give details. A Jordanian trade delegation returned to Amman Tuesday after presenting ideas on how to iron out an excess \$100 million in letters of credit opened by Baghdad for Jordanian exporters to ship goods to Iraq.

An official source said both sides failed to agree on how to

settle the crisis, which he said affected 160 Jordanian firms. Under a protocol aimed at easing trade with cash-strapped Iraq, Jordan's central bank reimburses local exporters for goods shipped to Baghdad, which pays for them partly in crude oil.

Officials said the system, started in 1983, hit a snag this year when letters of credit were opened to exporters for goods worth between \$450 and \$500 million in the first quarter, far above the year's quota of \$185 million.

They said that the flood of letters of credit, drawn on Iraq's state-owned Rafidain Bank, began when Baghdad relaxed controls on private sector imports in December.

The excess was put at \$100 million after the trade ministry, central bank and chamber of industry sifted through the letters and found that many of the exporters did not meet official financial standards.

In Bonn, government sources said Thursday that West Germany had decided to reopen a credit line to Iraq, granting it export credit guarantees for the first time since the start of the 1980s.

The sources said Iraq would

pay off outstanding debts to the Bonn government with oil deliveries and the 300 million-mark (\$165 million) credit line would take the form of state guarantees to pay for deliveries of West German exports to Iraq.

If Iraq failed to pay West German exporters for goods received, the West German government will lend Baghdad enough money to cover the bill. Bonn withdrew such credits after Iraq defaulted.

The Jordanian source said the delegation in Baghdad briefed its Iraqi counterparts on the amount of damage incurred by Jordanian exporters and presented suggestions to solve the problem.

Despite the lack of any break-

through, both sides agreed to resume their talks in Amman in mid-July, the source added.

Financial sources said they doubted Iraq would settle as its spending priority was the nearly eight-year-old war with Iran.

But Baghdad could opt for carrying forward a percentage of the excess to next year's protocol. The Iraqi private sector could also cover it by settling a part or by exporting more to Jordan.

The sources said Jordan was too small a market for extra Iraqi exports and the companies needed cash to keep operating. Iraq is a key market for the recession-hit economy of Jordan, which exported goods worth about \$190 million to Iraq in 1987.

Al Izzidhar merges with Jordan-Gulf Insurance

By Shafi Nicholas
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — As of Friday, July 1, 1988, Al Izzidhar Insurance Company has merged with Jordan-Gulf Insurance Company.

As a result, the two companies will each formulate a financial statement as of June 30, 1988. A special committee will evaluate all the assets and liabilities of both entities over a transitional period of two months in order to produce a consolidated balance sheet of the new company which will retain the name of Jordan-Gulf Insurance Company.

Upon finalising the financial and other technical matters, an extraordinary meeting of the general assemblies of both companies will be held in early September to conclude the merger procedures and elect a board of directors.

The committee, which currently is in charge of the affairs of the new company until September, comprises a representative from each of the two companies, their auditors, two representatives from the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply and an insurance expert nominated by the minister.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.6990/7000	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2165/80	Canadian dollar
	1.8230/40	Deutschemarks
	2.0535/45	Dutch guilders
	1.5135/45	Swiss francs
	38.16/21	Belgian francs
	6.1380/1410	French francs
	1351/1352	Italian lire
	134.28/38	Japanese yen
	6.2900/50	Swedish crowns
	6.6625/75	Norwegian crowns
	6.9240/90	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	436.10/436.60	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Demand for Heavyweight Resource stocks pushed prices to a firmer closing, recouping most of Thursday's losses. The All Ordinaries index was up 4.0 points at 1,551.3.

TOKYO — Share prices closed down due to profit-taking on large capital issues bought in the morning. The Nikkei index sank 265.87 points, 0.96 per cent, to 27,503.53.

HONG KONG — Stocks closed firmer, supported by moderate speculative buying, but the market lacked clear direction. The Hang Seng index rose 13.15 to 2,684.64.

SINGAPORE — The Straits Times industrial index rose 12.17 to close at a post-crash high of 1,105.41. Blue chips made major gains on industrial demand but overall trading was mixed.

BOMBAY — Share prices, affected by end-of-account considerations, were subdued. Tata Steel dropped 3.75 rupees to 837.5 and Associated Cement fell three to 233.

FRANKFURT — Prices ended an active session around two per cent higher, boosted by good company news, a strong dollar and short-position covering. The Commerzbank index, calculated at mid-session, rose 24.5 to 1,459.6, a high for the year.

ZURICH — Swiss share prices closed slightly firmer on moderate turnover. The All Share Swiss index was up 4.8 at 874.2.

PARIS — Shares started the floor session mostly steady, underpinned by positive sentiment but with little to spark renewed buying.

LONDON — Shares were mixed at the end of the two-week account, with most operators happy with their book positions ahead of the next account. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was up 0.8 at 1,858.4.

NEW YORK — Stocks stayed lower in mid-morning trading but had levelled off after a light spell of selling which analysts said was exaggerated by thin trading. The Dow was down seven at 2,135.

U.S. foreign debt leaps to \$360 billion

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States' foreign debt burden climbed to \$368.2 billion in 1987, a sharp \$36.8 per cent rise over the previous year, as the country increased its lead as the world's largest debtor nation.

The Commerce Department said Thursday the new debt total was \$99 billion higher than the \$269.2 billion in debt to foreigners that the United States owed at the end of 1986.

The debt means that citizens of other countries now own more in U.S. assets than Americans own abroad.

For 1987, the government reported that foreign holdings in the United States increased to

\$1.54 trillion from \$1.34 trillion at the end of 1986.

American investments overseas totalled \$1.17 trillion at the close of 1987, up from \$1.07 trillion a year earlier.

The difference between foreign investments in the United States and American holdings overseas represents the \$368.2 billion debt burden the country is carrying.

It now has a debt load greater than the combined total of Brazil, Mexico and Argentina, the Third World countries with the largest debt burdens.

Critics have charged that the transformation of the United States from the world's largest creditor nation, a position it held

as recently as 1983, to the world's biggest debtor is the chief failure of President Ronald Reagan's economic policies.

Democrats, who hope to use the issue to their advantage in the November presidential campaign, have charged that the burgeoning debt is eroding America's political and economic standing in the world.

But the Reagan administration Thursday sought to minimise the annual accounting of the country's investment position, contending that the figures were a sign of strength showing foreigners still believed America was an excellent place to invest.

The United States had an in-

vestment surplus of \$89.4 billion as recently as 1983. That surplus fell to \$3.5 billion in 1984 and disappeared altogether in 1985, the year the country became a net debtor for the first time in 71 years with a debt of \$110.7 billion.

America's investment surplus has evaporated as the country ran up huge merchandise trade deficits during the 1980s, transferring billions of dollars into the hands of foreigners to pay for colour televisions, stereo equipment and automobiles.

These dollars, now in foreign hands, have been reinvested in the United States in everything from government bonds to real

estate, triggering alarm bells and calls in Congress for curbs on foreign investment.

Commerce Undersecretary Robert Ortner, briefing reporters Thursday, said the administration opposes placing curbs on foreign investment in the United States.

He also objected to comparing the United States to Third World countries, saying unlike Brazil, the United States owes its debt in its own currency.

Private economists have contended that the growing debt burden has begun to lower Americans' standard of living as more and more money must be transferred into the hands of foreigners.

Egypt cuts oil export prices

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt Thursday sharply declared its oil export prices by up to \$1.85 a barrel for the first half of July, a senior oil ministry official said.

Hammad Ayoub, head of the oil ministry's foreign trade department, told reporters the top-grade Gulf of Suez had been decreased by \$1.60 to \$12.75 a barrel.

He said Belayim had been decreased \$1.60 a barrel to \$11.90. Ras Badran was decreased by \$1.85 to \$10.75 a barrel and Ras Ghareb was decreased by \$1.45 to \$10.45 a barrel.

He said the sharp decreases were effective July 1-15. He declined to comment on the drop.

The government had decreased the prices of all grades of its oil by 50 cents a barrel for the second half of June. That was the first cut since the second half of April.

Egypt is not a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, but it generally sets its prices in accordance with the group's policies.

Egypt produces 370,000 barrels daily, around half of which is locally consumed and the rest is exported.

Dollar still rides high

LONDON (R) — The dollar ended a hectic week's European trading buoyant but off its highs after the Japanese apparently joined the West Germans Friday in trying to stop a three-week-old surge in its value.

Gold prices were a shade firmer.

Currency dealers in Singapore said the Bank of Japan sold a modest \$30 to \$50 million in the open market there, for Deutsche marks, through a Japanese bank.

It was "no big deal" said a senior European bank trader, and no Japanese intervention to prop the yen was detected.

But the hint that the Japanese were moving up alongside West Germany's Bundesbank, which, with other European central banks, has sold dollars all week, made markets cautious.

The start on the July 4 long weekend in the United States also made them wary about taking new positions.

Bonn raises lending interest rate

FRANKFURT (R) — West Germany announced higher interest rates Thursday in a move to staunch an outflow of capital and dampen a risk of higher inflation.

The Bundesbank (central bank) said that from Friday its discount rate, held at a record low 2.5 per cent since last autumn, will go up to three per cent.

Interest rate rises were also announced in Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands and Switzerland — which tend to act in tandem with the West Germans. British rates have also risen lately.

But the Bank of France did not join Europe's trend to costlier money and held its key intervention rate at seven per cent. French Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy told reporters he was still hoping to lower French interest rates.

While raising the discount rate, the Bundesbank said its less-significant Lombard rate stays unchanged at 4.5 per cent.

But it will raise the securities repurchase rate, at which it lends

banks one-month funds, from 3.5 to 3.75 per cent. It raised that rate last week from 3.25 per cent.

Interest rate changes are a hot issue in the politics of global economic management. They can send money flowing abruptly from one industrial economy to another and also, if set too high, stifle economic expansion by pinching consumer spending.

The Bundesbank said measures taken to ease credit and fire up the economy, to help avoid a global slump just after the "Black Monday" Oct. 19 financial crash, were no longer needed.

By providing a better return on Deutsche mark assets, the Germans now hope to make them more attractive to international investment money which has been leaving their economy and also to stabilise their currency — down about seven per cent against a rebounding dollar lately.

A weak mark means higher prices on imported goods and a risk of inflation. Tighter credit will also help dampen inflation.

"What happens next, and whether there will be further moves, depends on the exchange rate," said Hermann Remspurger, chief economist at Berliner Handels — und Frankfurter Bank.

One trigger of last autumn's markets crash was a public row in which U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker, on television, blasted the Germans for raising interest rates.

Markets feared a breakdown in cooperation among industrial powers and a round of competitive interest rate rises as each struggled to attract international investment money.

But economists say the situation is now less fraught.

Generally low interest rates recently have helped industrial economies to continue expanding at a brisk three per cent.

The present worry is about inflation, not recession, and interest rates have been allowed to edge higher in the United States and in Britain, which has lifted its bank lending rates from 10-year

lows at 7.5 per cent to 9.5 per cent.

British Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson reiterated Thursday that interest rates were a key instrument of policy for use in curbing inflation.

Economists said the Germans could not have raised interest rates now if the dollar had been weak. Had the dollar not been in demand, the United States might have had to leapfrog them in the sort of crisis feared last October.

The West German move was followed Thursday by the Swiss National Bank raising its Lombard rate to 4.5 per cent from four per cent, but its discount rate was left at 2.5 per cent.

The Swiss Lombard rate is rarely used and applies only when individual banks face severe short-term lack of funds.

Austria raised its discount rate by half a percentage point to 3.5 per cent. Austria closely follows West German interest rate trends as part of its "hard schilling policy" which effectively links its currency to the mark.

The Dutch central bank raised three leading rates by the smaller margin of ¼ of a percentage point.

The Belgian National Bank is raising its discount rate to 6.75 per cent from 6.50 per cent from Friday. It is also raising its so-called advances rate, similar to the German Lombard, to seven per cent from 6.75 per cent.

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Yugoslavian inflation hits record 175%

BELGRADE (AP) — Yugoslavia's consumer index in June rose by 21.1 per cent over last month's mark and annual inflation hit an all time record of 175.5 per cent, the official Tanjug news agency reported Thursday.

The record rise of inflation in June was due to massive price hikes after the government introduced an austerity programme at the end of May which also limited

wages and devalued national currency, the dinar, by 23.9 per cent.

The programme, designed to cope with Europe's highest inflation in a long term, lifted price controls for about 60 per cent of goods and services which were under a price freeze since last November.

The unpopular measures contributed to a further decline of living standards.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Porto names Quinto as manager

OPORTO, Portugal (R) — Portuguese soccer champions Porto named the widely-experienced Joaquim Duro de Jesus "Quinto" as their new manager Friday. Quinto, manager of Espinho last season, replaces Yugoslav Tomislav Ivic who resigned last month after guiding the 1987 European Cup winners to a domestic league and cup double. The 39-year-old former midfielder, who was managed several Portuguese clubs and coached in Saudi Arabia, signed a two-year contract.

Heysel riot case 'bizarre' mess, lawyers claim

LONDON (AP) — Lawyers for 26 Liverpool soccer fans accused of manslaughter in the 1985 Heysel stadium disaster said Thursday that Belgian legal proceedings had degenerated into such a "bizarre" mess, that their clients may not even appear for trial. The Liverpool fans, who are now back in England on bail after having been extradited to Belgium last September, are to be asked Friday whether they intend returning to Brussels to face charges arising out of the riot at the European Cup final which left 39 people dead and 400 injured after a wall collapsed. Sir Harry Livermore, a lawyer representing 15 of the defendants, said Belgian legal authorities were planning to hold the trial on only one-and-a-half days a week and they were not prepared to pay costs to his clients to stay in Belgium during the estimated year-long trial. As a result he would be asking all the defendants to indicate whether they were prepared to return to Brussels for the October trial.

Senna outpaces Prost for pole position

LE CASTELLET, France (R) — Frenchman Alain Prost outpaced McLaren team-mate and World Championship rival Ayrton Senna of Brazil in Friday's first qualifying session to snatch provisional pole position for Sunday's French Grand Prix motor race. The 1985 and 1986 world champion and leader of the current drivers' standings, seeking a third victory in his "home" Grand Prix, recorded a best lap time of one minute 08.171 seconds to hold off Senna by less than one-third of a second. Senna was second quickest in 1:08.456 and, if Prost maintains his superiority Saturday, could see his run of six consecutive pole positions this season brought to an end.

Bile meets Cram in dream mile

OSLO (R) — Abdi Bile, the 25-year-old Somali who swept to last year's world 1,500 metres championships, takes on the 1983 world champion Steve Cram in Saturday's dream mile, the highlight of the Bislett Games Grand Prix athletics meeting. Bile was decisively beaten by Said Aouita over 1,500 metres here last year but took full advantage of the Moroccan's absence to win gold at the Rome World Championships later in the year. Aouita, who opted to run the 5,000 in preference to the 1,500 in Rome, has pulled out of Saturday's meeting. He also missed Thursday's world games in Helsinki, citing injury and lack of form for his decision to withdraw. Despite Aouita's absence, the field for the dream mile is brimming with talent and experience.



Hani Al Ali (right) and Furat Hammadi, the winning team of the 1988 Jordan Tennis Championship (men's doubles) celebrate their victory after lifting their trophies.

Navratilova, Graf go for tennis history today

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — A small piece of tennis history is in the making at Wimbledon.

The question is: Which piece? Martina Navratilova and Steffi Graf, both aiming for landmarks in their respective careers, reached the final of the women's singles Thursday.

But one puff of chalk might have made all the difference.

The ending of Navratilova's 6-1, 4-6, 7-5 victory over long-time rival Chris Evert overshadowed for the moment the winner's bid to clinch a record ninth Wimbledon singles crown.

It also took the spotlight away from Graf, whose 6-1, 6-2 trouncing of Pam Shriver kept her on course for the third leg of the Grand Slam.

Facing her fourth match-point in a rain-hit semifinal that grew in excitement, Evert hit a cross-court forehand that clipped the net and whizzed past Navratilova.

Evert thought it was in, the crowd thought it was in, Navratilova wasn't sure. But line judge

David Shepherd called it out, and umpire Richard Lumb upheld the call.

"I was just stunned," Evert said. "It was bad luck considering the match was so close."

While the controversy reverberated round the dignified corridors of the All England Club, Graf and Navratilova took a day off Friday to prepare for a repeat of last year's final when the American won in straight sets.

Friday was men's semifinals day of centre court, with one player going for his third title in four years, and the other three bidding for a first success at the world's oldest Grand Slam tournament.

First up was Stefan Edberg against Miloslav Mecir, neither of whom have reached the championship match at Wimbledon.

That was being followed by Ivan Lendl's clash with 1985-6 titlist Boris Becker in a repeat of the final two years ago, when the West German won in straight

sets. Lendl also came up short last year, losing the final to Australian Pat Cash.

Navratilova said that in all her previous 77 meetings with Evert, never had she known such a confusing, unsatisfactory ending, "especially here."

"It's a shame that it had to be so close for it to end that way," Navratilova said.

The match, interrupted for 70 minutes by rain in the middle of the second set, had reached a tense climax when it burst into controversy.

Evert had already saved three match points and was certain she had staved off another, showing rare emotion on court as she pumped her fists in exultation.

But as she turned to serve again at what she assumed was deuce, she noticed Shepherd had stuck out his right arm to indicate the ball was wide.

Evert couldn't believe it, and stood her ground for several seconds as the crowd booed the decision.

When Evert questioned the call, umpire Richard Lumb refused to yield, announcing "the ball was called out."

The crowd booed again and a match that had begun poorly but gradually built to a thrilling finale ended in a way neither player wanted.

"It was a bad break for me," Evert, a three-time champion but a loser for the last six years, said. "I really thought the ball landed on the line. But after thinking about it, it really doesn't matter what I think. I was not sitting on the line."

Evert, playing in her 17th Wimbledon, said the pattern of the match was "pretty comparable" to last year, when she also went down in three sets to Navratilova.

Friday's repeat was another battle of Evert's accurate passing shots against Navratilova's lightning volleys.

Kookaburra to face Bengal in World 12-metre Yachting Championship

LULEA, Sweden (R) — Kookaburra III of Australia and Japan's Bengal III Thursday employed superior fresh-wind tactics to reach Saturday's final of the World 12-metre Yachting Championship.

Kookaburra continued its unbeaten match race record with wins over New Sweden and its own sister Kookaburra II, renamed Nordstjernan under a sponsorship deal.

The victory over Nordstjernan, with America's Cup champion Dennis Conner at the helm, was sweet revenge for Kookaburra skipper Peter Gilmour who lost the cup to Conner last year.

"The stronger the breezes are out there, the happier I am," Gilmour said, referring to the steady 15-knot winds which made for perfect conditions. "I am happy to take on anyone."

Bengal III, skippered by veteran Australian Skip Lissiman, capitalised on the steady breezes to conquer British entrant Crusader '88 for his fifth match race win in the semifinal campaign.

The former Australia III, one of the yachts built by Australian Alan Bond for last year's unsuccessful America's Cup defence, is now owned by Japanese entrepreneur Masakazu Kobayashi.

Outsider New Sweden, also in contention for the final, lost to Kookaburra in a resal of the duel it won Tuesday, but which was declared void overnight by the competition jury.

Ali, Hammadi bag Jordan Tennis Championship title

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Hani Al Ali and Furat Hammadi Thursday defeated archrivals Abdullah Al Khalil and Samir Rifa'i after a fairly close game that lasted an hour, clinching Jordan's men's doubles Tennis Championship title for 1988.

Despite the number of points that were argued and the umpire's decision on a point in their favour being replayed (an unusual practice), Ali and Hammadi managed to win the first set 6-2.

The second set was closer. With an audience split into two camps, each cheering for the favoured team, Ali and Hammadi managed to "win the important points," taking the set 7-5 after closely being tied at 5-5.

"It felt good," 23-year-old Ali said shortly after the game. "We will hopefully be teaming-up together next year," he said in reference to his partner.

Hammadi and Ali were "out to play on the offensive," on Thursday, Hammadi said. But, the 16-year-old admitted, "in the second set, I made more double faults than I would have liked to."

Ali and Hammadi teamed up for the Seoul Olympic games earlier this year, and have plans to continue playing with each other.

"As a team, they played better than we did," Khalil said of the winning team. But, he added, "luck has a lot to do with it."

Rifa'i said he was not satisfied with the ruling of the game. "The (tennis) federation told us the semifinal and final games would have a line umpire on everyone," he said. "Had I known it would be this way, I wouldn't have played," he added.

He said at the beginning of the first set there was only the umpire

to rule the game, with no assistance from any linesperson.

"It was only after three points were argued during the first set that the three linespersons were made available," he said.

Commenting on the game itself, Rifa'i said he thought the winning team played well. "We started off very slow and tense," he said. "The second set was very close and we could not get back into the game," he said. Of the winning team, he said "their basic

game was better and they managed to win the more important points."

Distributing the trophies and prizes to participants at the end of the game was Abdul Qader Al Qadi, president of the Arab Investment Bank, the sponsors of the event.

Trophies were also given to Yasmeen Abu Jaber and Odette Attala who Wednesday won the women's doubles championship title.

Head of Jordan's Tennis Federation Fathi Mahmoud and Lieutenant General Dr. David Hananiyah were also present for the final game, along with almost 100 tennis fans.

The event was organised by the Jordan Tennis Federation and was held at the Sports City.

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Iraq, Jordan fail to solve trade crisis

AMMAN (R) — Talks between Iraq and Jordan on a \$100 million payment crisis have made no headway but a senior official said Thursday both sides would meet again in mid-July.

"There is enough room for optimism," Trade Minister Hamdi Tabaa told Reuters. "Both countries have the goodwill to settle the issue... we expect positive results."

He declined to give details. A Jordanian trade delegation returned to Amman Tuesday after presenting ideas on how to iron out an excess \$100 million in letters of credit opened by Baghdad for Jordanian exporters to ship goods to Iraq.

An official source said both sides failed to agree on how to

settle the crisis, which he said affected 160 Jordanian firms. Under a protocol aimed at easing trade with cash-strapped Iraq, Jordan's central bank reimburses local exporters for goods shipped to Baghdad, which pays for them partly in crude oil.

Officials said the system, started in 1983, hit a snag this year when letters of credit were opened to exporters for goods worth between \$450 and \$500 million in the first quarter, far above the year's quota of \$185 million.

They said that the flood of letters of credit, drawn on Iraq's state-owned Rafidain Bank, began when Baghdad relaxed controls on private sector imports in December.

The excess was put at \$100 million after the trade ministry, central bank and chamber of industry sifted through the letters and found that many of the exporters did not meet official financial standards.

In Bonn, government sources said Thursday that West Germany had decided to reopen a credit line to Iraq, granting it export credit guarantees for the first time since the start of the 1980s.

The sources said Iraq would

pay off outstanding debts to the Bonn government with oil deliveries and the 300 million-mark (\$165 million) credit line would take the form of state guarantees to pay for deliveries of West German exports to Iraq.

If Iraq failed to pay West German exporters for goods received, the West German government will lend Baghdad enough money to cover the bill. Bonn withdrew such credits after Iraq defaulted.

The Jordanian source said the delegation in Baghdad briefed its Iraqi counterparts on the amount of damage incurred by Jordanian exporters and presented suggestions to solve the problem.

Despite the lack of any break-

through, both sides agreed to resume their talks in Amman in mid-July, the source added.

Financial sources said they doubted Iraq would settle as its spending priority was the nearly eight-year-old war with Iran.

But Baghdad could opt for carrying forward a percentage of the excess to next year's protocol. The Iraqi private sector could also cover it by settling a part or by exporting more to Jordan.

The sources said Jordan was too small a market for extra Iraqi exports and the companies needed cash to keep operating. Iraq is a key market for the recession-hit economy of Jordan, which exported goods worth about \$190 million to Iraq in 1987.

Al Izdihar merges with Jordan-Gulf Insurance

By Shafi Nicholas
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — As of Friday, July 1, 1988, Al Izdihar Insurance Company has merged with Jordan-Gulf Insurance Company.

As a result, the two companies will each formulate a financial statement as of June 30, 1988. A special committee will evaluate all the assets and liabilities of both entities over a transitional period of two months in order to produce a consolidated balance sheet of the new company which will retain the name of Jordan-Gulf Insurance Company.

Upon finalising the financial and other technical matters, an extraordinary meeting of the general assemblies of both companies will be held in early September to conclude the merger procedures and elect a board of directors.

The committee, which currently is in charge of the affairs of the new company until September, comprises a representative from each of the two companies, their auditors, two representatives from the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply and an insurance expert nominated by the minister.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.6990/7000	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2165/80	Canadian dollar
	1.8230/40	Deutschmarks
	2.0535/45	Dutch guilders
	1.5135/45	Swiss francs
	38.16/21	Belgian francs
	6.1380/1410	French francs
	1351/1352	Italian lire
	134.28/38	Japanese yen
	6.2900/50	Swedish crowns
	6.6625/75	Norwegian crowns
	6.9240/90	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	436.10/436.60	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Demand for Heavyweight Resource stocks pushed prices to a firmer closing, recouping most of Thursday's losses. The All Ordinaries index was up 4.0 points at 1,551.3.

TOKYO — Share prices closed down due to profit-taking on large capital issues bought in the morning. The Nikkei index sank 265.87 points, 0.96 per cent, to 27,503.53.

HONG KONG — Stocks closed firmer, supported by moderate speculative buying, but the market lacked clear direction. The Hang Seng index rose 13.15 to 2,684.64.

SINGAPORE — The Straits Times industrial index rose 12.17 to close at a post-crash high of 1,105.41. Blue chips made major gains on industrial demand but overall trading was mixed.

BOMBAY — Share prices, affected by end-of-account considerations, were subdued. Tata Steel dropped 3.75 rupees to 837.5 and Associated Cement fell three to 233.

FRANKFURT — Prices ended an active session around two per cent higher, boosted by good company news, a strong dollar and short-position covering. The Commerzbank index, calculated at mid-session, rose 24.5 to 1,459.6, a high for the year.

ZURICH — Swiss share prices closed slightly firmer on moderate turnover. The All Share Swiss index was up 4.8 at 874.2.

PARIS — Shares started the floor session mostly steady, underpinned by positive sentiment but with little to spark renewed buying.

LONDON — Shares were mixed at the end of the two-week account, with most operators happy with their book positions ahead of the next account. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was up 0.8 at 1,858.4.

NEW YORK — Stocks stayed lower in mid-morning trading but had levelled off after a light spell of selling which analysts said was exaggerated by thin trading. The Dow was down seven at 2,135.

U.S. foreign debt leaps to \$360 billion

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States' foreign debt burden climbed to \$368.2 billion in 1987, a sharp \$36.8 per cent rise over the previous year, as the country increased its lead as the world's largest debtor nation.

The Commerce Department said Thursday the new debt total was \$99 billion higher than the \$269.2 billion in debt to foreigners that the United States owed at the end of 1986.

The debt means that citizens of other countries now own more in U.S. assets than Americans own abroad.

For 1987, the government reported that foreign holdings in the United States increased to

\$1.54 trillion from \$1.34 trillion at the end of 1986.

American investments overseas totalled \$1.17 trillion at the close of 1987, up from \$1.07 trillion a year earlier.

The difference between foreign investments in the United States and American holdings overseas represents the \$368.2 billion debt burden the country is carrying.

It now has a debt load greater than the combined total of Brazil, Mexico and Argentina, the Third World countries with the largest debt burdens.

Critics have charged that the transformation of the United States from the world's largest creditor nation, a position it held

as recently as 1983, to the world's biggest debtor is the chief failure of President Ronald Reagan's economic policies.

Democrats, who hope to use the issue to their advantage in the November presidential campaign, have charged that the burgeoning debt is eroding America's political and economic standing in the world.

But the Reagan administration Thursday sought to minimise the annual accounting of the country's investment position, contending that the figures were a sign of strength showing foreigners still believed America was an excellent place to invest.

The United States had an in-

vestment surplus of \$89.4 billion as recently as 1983. That surplus fell to \$3.5 billion in 1984 and disappeared altogether in 1985, the year the country became a net debtor for the first time in 71 years with a debt of \$110.7 billion.

America's investment surplus has evaporated as the country ran up huge merchandise trade deficits during the 1980s, transferring billions of dollars into the hands of foreigners to pay for colour televisions, stereo equipment and automobiles.

These dollars, now in foreign hands, have been reinvested in the United States in everything from government bonds to real

estate, triggering alarm bells and calls in Congress for curbs on foreign investment.

Commerce Undersecretary Robert Ortner, briefing reporters Thursday, said the administration opposes placing curbs on foreign investment in the United States.

He also objected to comparing the United States to Third World countries, saying unlike Brazil, the United States owes its debt in its own currency.

Private economists have contended that the growing debt burden has begun to lower Americans' standard of living as more and more money must be transferred into the hands of foreigners.

Egypt cuts oil export prices

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt Thursday sharply declared its oil export prices by up to \$1.85 a barrel for the first half of July, a senior oil ministry official said.

Hammad Ayoub, head of the oil ministry's foreign trade department, told reporters the top-grade Gulf of Suez had been decreased by \$1.60 to \$12.75 a barrel.

He said Belayim had been decreased \$1.60 a barrel to \$11.90. Ras Badran was decreased by \$1.85 to \$10.75 a barrel and Ras Ghareb was decreased by \$1.45 to \$10.45 a barrel.

He said the sharp decreases were effective July 1-15. He declined to comment on the drop.

The government had decreased the prices of all grades of its oil by 50 cents a barrel for the second half of June. That was the first cut since the second half of April.

Egypt is not a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, but it generally sets its prices in accordance with the group's policies.

Egypt produces 370,000 barrels daily, around half of which is locally consumed and the rest is exported.

Dollar still rides high

LONDON (R) — The dollar ended a hectic week's European trading buoyant but off its highs after the Japanese apparently joined the West Germans Friday in trying to stop a three-week-old surge in its value.

Gold prices were a shade firmer.

Currency dealers in Singapore said the Bank of Japan sold a modest \$30 to \$50 million in the open market there, for Deutsche marks, through a Japanese bank.

It was "no big deal" said a senior European bank trader, and no Japanese intervention to prop the yen was detected.

But the hint that the Japanese were moving up alongside West Germany's Bundesbank, which, with other European central banks, has sold dollars all week, made markets cautious.

The start on the July 4 long weekend in the United States also made them wary about taking new positions.

Bonn raises lending interest rate

FRANKFURT (R) — West Germany announced higher interest rates Thursday in a move to staunch an outflow of capital and dampen a risk of higher inflation.

The Bundesbank (central bank) said that from Friday its discount rate, held at a record low 2.5 per cent since last autumn, will go up to three per cent.

Interest rate rises were also announced in Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands and Switzerland — which tend to act in tandem with the West Germans. British rates have also risen lately.

But the Bank of France did not join Europe's trend to costlier money and held its key intervention rate at seven per cent. French Finance Minister Pierre Berezguy told reporters he was still hoping to lower French interest rates.

While raising the discount rate, the Bundesbank said its less-significant Lombard rate stays unchanged at 4.5 per cent.

But it will raise the securities repurchase rate, at which it lends

banks one-month funds, from 3.5 to 3.75 per cent. It raised that rate last week from 3.25 per cent.

Interest rate changes are a hot issue in the politics of global economic management. They can send money flowing abruptly from one industrial economy to another and also, if set too high, stifle economic expansion by pinching consumer spending.

The Bundesbank said measures taken to ease credit and fire up the economy, to help avoid a global slump just after the "Black Monday" Oct. 19 financial crash, were no longer needed.

By providing a better return on Deutsche mark assets, the Germans now hope to make them more attractive to international investment money which has been leaving their economy and also to stabilise their currency — down about seven per cent against a rebounding dollar lately.

A weak mark means higher prices on imported goods and a risk of inflation. Tighter credit will also help dampen inflation.

"What happens next, and whether there will be further moves, depends on the exchange rate," said Hermann Remspurger, chief economist at Berliner Handels — und Frankfurter Bank.

One trigger of last autumn's markets crash was a public row in which U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker, on television, blasted the Germans for raising interest rates.

Markets feared a breakdown in cooperation among industrial powers and a round of competitive interest rate rises as each struggled to attract international investment money.

But economists say the situation is now less fraught.

Generally low interest rates recently have helped industrial economies to continue expanding at a brisk three per cent.

The present worry is about inflation, not recession, and interest rates have been allowed to edge higher in the United States and in Britain, which has lifted its bank lending rates from 10-year

lows at 7.5 per cent to 9.5 per cent.

British Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson reiterated Thursday that interest rates were a key instrument of policy for use in curbing inflation.

Economists said the Germans could not have raised interest rates now if the dollar had been weak. Had the dollar not been in demand, the United States might have had to leapfrog them in the sort of crisis feared last October.

The West German move was followed Thursday by the Swiss National Bank raising its Lombard rate to 4.5 per cent from four per cent, but its discount rate was left at 2.5 per cent.

The Swiss Lombard rate is rarely used and applies only when individual banks face severe short-term lack of funds.

Austria raised its discount rate by half a percentage point to 3.5 per cent. Austria closely follows West German interest rate trends as part of its "hard schilling policy" which effectively links its currency to the mark.

The Dutch central bank raised three leading rates by the smaller margin of ¼ of a percentage point.

The Belgian National Bank is raising its discount rate to 6.75 per cent from 6.50 per cent from Friday. It is also raising its so-called advances rate, similar to the German Lombard, to seven per cent from 6.75 per cent.

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Yugoslavian inflation hits record 175%

BELGRADE (AP) — Yugoslavia's consumer index in June rose by 21.1 per cent over last month's mark and annual inflation hit an all time record of 175.5 per cent, the official Tanjug news agency reported Thursday.

The record rise of inflation in June was due to massive price hikes after the government introduced an austerity programme at the end of May which also limited

wages and devalued national currency, the dinar, by 23.9 per cent. The programme, designed to cope with Europe's highest inflation in a long term, lifted price controls for about 60 per cent of goods and services which were under a price freeze since last November.

The unpopular measures contributed to a further decline of living standards.

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